

Anything
IS
Possible

Merrillvue 1995

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Anything and Everyone



Anything IS Possible

Merrillvue

◆1995◆

Volume 70

◆ Getting the crowd fired up, football co-captains, Ryan Darlock, '95, and Mike Mikesell, '95, give a short pep talk to the student body during the Homecoming pep rally. In the past few years it was rare to have a pep rally at MHS, but this year there were several.



◆Merrillville High School◆

276 East 68th Place◆Merrillville, IN◆46410

Enrollment 1782



Landmark photo

While waiting for their turn in the parade lineup, Jennifer Dainton and Joe Lechner, both '95, discuss whether or not to be on the float or go by foot. Both were in the parade for their youth group.

Creating a style all his own, Kevin Newton, '96, shows his spirit on opposite sex day. Newton and others not only took part in opposite sex day, but tie, P.J., class color, and purple and white days as well.





ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

I N T R O D U C T I O N

Nothing is written in stone... Right? Well, even if it was, it's not anymore. MHS has reshaped the way high school is and how it should be. If it wasn't the students facing the faculty on the court, it was Student Government making waves with all-sport rallies. If we put our minds to it...

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

By sharing a dance together, Mr. Football, Kevin Erny and Homecoming Queen, Leah Frink, both '95, begin a tradition. The theme for the dance was "All I Want is You" by U2.



Matt Sicker, '96, looks on in anguish as Portage tepples the Pirates by an unmentionable score. Sicker and his teammates put in countless hours preparing for a great season.

Erny/frink

SAY ANYTHING

S P I R I T

Alive is probably one of the best words to describe MHS. From the poms and new male cheerleaders getting the crowd all riled up, to the first ever Homecoming King, somehow the student body always finds something new. And sometimes when the fans stand up and **SAY ANYTHING**, their support is felt by everyone.

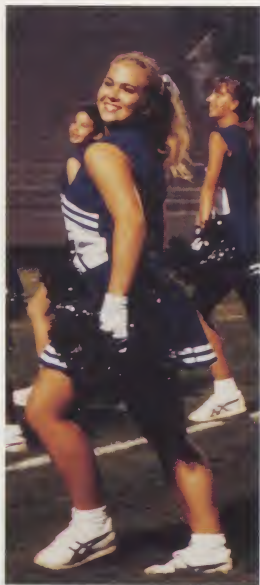
Aaron Lewis, '06, performs at one of many football halftimes. This year the band got more creative by allowing different performers like Lewis to have solos during the time.

"Go big Pirates," shouts Jon Schultz, '05, as he tries to get the crowd riled up at the basketball opener against Munster. Male cheerleaders added to the excitement of attending home games throughout basketball season.





■ Proudly accepting her rose from football head coach Rick Wimmer, Carol Fyfe and son, Mark, '95, enjoy Parents' Night at the Crown Point game.



■ Jennifer Bowley, '95, performs to the best of her ability during football halftime. Bowley, along with Nancy Dickewski, '95, and Danielle Ramirez, '95, were the captains of the squad.



◆Beth Juske, '96; Melissa Pagel, '97; Amy Sepczak, '96; and Jennifer Draper, '96; all patiently wait to see how the Pirates are going to fair. Just being in Demaree Stadium was an experience in itself.

Fordough photo

◆Giving it her all, Lulu Rodriguez, '95, helps to cheer on the Pirates. Rodriguez was also a member of the senior Homecoming court along with Caryn Freyso, Erin Jancovsky, Aliso Zak, and Queen Leah Frink.



Fordough photo

Fans get all

RILED UP

Students filling the stands help to increase school spirit at events

Have you ever wondered what it would be like if there weren't any fans in the stands? BORING!! MHS happens to be one of the best supported schools in the community. Sure it's nice to sit in the new stadium, remodeled gym, and modern fieldhouse addition, but way before the renovation, the fans have always been the backbone for Merrillville athletics.

Athletes like to perform in front of crowds. It is always a thrill to be complimented on an achievement. Adults, as well as peers, are able to recognize those unique students with outstanding athletic abilities.

Attending local high school sporting events is an inexpensive form of entertainment for people in the area, and it gives the athletes the incentive to

strive to make their performances the ultimate best. Generally, the more support,

or people who

come to

watch, the

better the

team or individual will do.

It is a given,

everyone

likes to be a

hero. It is this

same feeling

that is

achieved

when one

plays exceptionally

well

while people are there watch-

ing. Parents are the most

frequent fans supporting the

Bucs, but it is nice to see the

community join together to

help back our Pirate athletes.

Say ANYTHING

"Knowing that people are judging my abilities, it gives me the incentive to play my best."

Eric Forster, '96

◆ LAURIE MANESS

Waiting patiently, Kevin Scholer, '95, stands in Denmore Stadium to see if the football team can avoid a touchdown by the opposing team.



Jessica Fiedges, Jessica Figueiroa and Mike Guzman, all '95, cheer on the Pirates while sheltering themselves from rain. Pirate fans were willing to withstand almost anything when it came to giving their support.

Shouting out her enthusiasm, Erin Lavin, '95, shows her support for the Pirates at one of their home football games. Attending games was a good way for students to socialize while showing their support for the team.

Fordnough photo

Fordnough photo

◆ After being crowned Homecoming Queen, Leah Frink, '95, pauses before walking off the field. Frink, along with Homecoming Court members, Erin Jancovsky, '95, and Alisa Zak, '95, all played softball together.



Landis/Spide photo



◆ Almost a tradition, students dance to the ever-popular "YMCA" during the annual Homecoming dance. This year's dance was set to the theme "All I Want is You," by the band U2. Colors were black and silver.

◆ "Will you sign me?" Uesire Elizondo asks Fari Lombrowski, both '95, as she waits to board the fire engines for the Homecoming parade. The fire trucks almost didn't make it for the parade due to an unexpected false alarm.

Landis/Spide photo



Homecoming catches

THE SPIRIT

◆ Pirates beat the Vikings as Frink was named queen

What made Homecoming '94 different from those past? One thing could be the dance shared between Homecoming Queen, Leah Frink, '95, and Mr. Football, Kevin Erny, '95, at the annual dance. "I was very flattered and surprised when I heard my name, it was a very meaningful time," commented Frink.

The week nearly got off to a rough start when Student Government almost made the theme "Hakuna Matata" from Disney's *The Lion King*, at their first ever "Open House." But the final decision was for a split theme- "All I Want is You," for the dance, and "Bash the Boat" for the week's festivities which included a parade, the queen's coronation, seven days filled with school spirit and a pep rally before the traditional Powder Puff games. All the decisions and planning that go into Homecoming were done by the whole government, not just the officers.

Whether you were dressing as the opposite sex or coming to school in your PJ's, spirit week helped to break the monotony of average school life. The juniors beat the seniors by a mere two points during the

final Powder Puff game, but the Seniors placed first in the float competition during the Homecoming parade, which eased the burn of the loss. The Freshman Class, those little younguns of the school, were victorious over the sophomores as well.

The dance, "All I want is you," proved to be quite a blast for most of the couples who attended. "The dance itself was fun, but the music really bored me," stated Samantha Corrigan, '95. Throughout the night, the seniors seemed to be holding on to the last of the high school homecomings, while the freshmen were getting a taste of a real formal dance.

All in all, whether it be the spirit days, the game, or the dance, almost all of MHS was united in some way during Homecoming, which made the victory much sweeter.

◆ KIMBERLY ANDERSON

◆ Just after being named Mr. Football, Kevin Erny, '95, accepts the microphone from football head coach Rick Wimmer. Erny then had the chance to help pep up the student body for the Volpo game.

◆ Strutting their stuff to "I'm Leo Sexy," Joe Leomier, John Eedwith, and Curtis Minchuk, all '95, ride the senior float. The class of '95's float took first place in the annual parade by best displaying this year's game theme, "Bash the Boat."

Frindough photo



Frindough photo

Say **ANYTHING**

"I was very flattered and surprised when I heard my name, it was a very meaningful time."

Leah Frink, '95



During the first ever all-fall sports pep rally, the entire cheerleading squad comes together for a huge pyramid. Later in basketball season, guy cheerleaders added strength to the squad.

Endersburg photo

Media Secretary, Peggy Snelsen shows her spirit by not getting ready for week on FJ/Exer shorts day. For Snelsen, Spirit Week was a break from the day-in, day-out routine.



Spirit starts

REBUILDING

◆ Surpassing previous years, spirit overwhelms MHS

Since when does a school actually possess so much spirit that they have to be told to sit down during a game or pep session rather than being told to stand up? The answer lies in the MHS student body. What has come over MHS to cause this overflow of spirit and enthusiasm?

Several reasons contribute to this sudden influx of school spirit. A state-ranked basketball team inevitably persuaded fan support, as well as 12 new male additions to the varsity cheerleading squad. But Pirate spirit didn't start there, it goes way back to the beginning of school and football season. "Fans standing up, cheering. That's something that sticks out

in my mind," comments Danielle Ramirez, '95.

Whatever the reason for the great amount of spirit given off from MHS, whether it is class competitions or even sports, they all add up to massive school unity and an impression of a school containing an overabundance of spirit. MHS's spirit and enthusiasm definitely makes this year more memorable and exciting.

◆ KIMBERLY ANDERSON

◆ Danielle Ramirez, '95

"Fans standing up, cheering. That's something that sticks out in my mind."

◆ Showing off their new haircuts, Mike Milesell, Mike Wasniewski, Brian Hogan, all '95, along with Chris De Mure, '96 and Kevin Enny, '95 all joke around before passing time ends.

◆ Football half-time was a time for the band to show off everything they have. From the pep-pens to the flag corps, to senior drum major Josh Springman leading the band in the Merrillville High School Song, spirit shined at all home games.

◆ Leeanne Forbes, '95, plays the flute in the Pep Band at one of the home basketball games. The band was known for attracting large crowds when it played because of the upbeat numbers it performed.

◆ Showing off their new haircuts, Mike Milesell, Mike Wasniewski, Brian Hogan, all '95, along with Chris De Mure, '96 and Kevin Enny, '95 all joke around before passing time ends.



Fordough photo



Elbert photo

Putting on the

PRESSURE

◆ Hoops for Hope and Kiss
the Pig spotlight Student/
Faculty competition

What do Abby Vivo, Erin Lain, Ricky McMillian, all '95, and Coach Rick Wimmer have in common? Well on November 16, they participated in the Hoops for Hopes basketball game. Other

members of the student team were Dante Williams, Mike Guernsey, and Susan Zirkel, all '95; Roger Fleming, Dawn Fox, Robert

Guterrez, Barbie Guy, Phil Martin, Nigel Walton, Ryan Miller, Brandon Nelson, and David Kirklen, all '96.

Quest chose the students and staff who would best represent their respective teams. One of the exciting parts of the game is that the students played against the teachers! "The game was great! It was spirit at its peak," exclaimed Josh Larson, '96.

But wait that's not all! The

students and faculty of MHS have even more spirit hidden somewhere in them. On December 3, Student Government sponsored the "Kiss the Pig" contest. For two weeks Student Government members carried around the jugs of Tom Herbert, who was last year's kiss the pig champ; Mike Krutz, CAD teacher; Rick Wimmer, head football coach; Roger Emig, choir director; and Lori Dust, the "Belle of the South" and former kiss the pig champ too. This was the students' chance for revenge on their favorite or least-liked teacher. All they had to do was drop their spare change in a bucket and hope that it amounted to more than any other. Unfortunately for Dust, the odds were stacked against her. Steve DeVillez, WMHS and PNN sponsor, had a little bit off fun with Dust by editing her prerecorded video message to make it seem as if Dust herself wanted back her once loved title. But in the end Krutz got the honors.

◆ **PATRICK FARABAUGH & LAURIE WOITOWICZ**

◆ Dante Williams, '95, guards Rick Wimmer, football coach and P.F., teachers, to the test of his ability as the faculty lead over the students by a score of 9 to 7 in the first quarter of play.

◆ "Don't mind me. I'm just kissing a pig!" football and baseball coach Mike Krutz padders up in front of the student body on December 2. Krutz earned the most money in Student Government's annual Kiss the Pig contest. The government named the pig "Dot," after their president, Patrick Farabaugh, '95.

Say ANYTHING

"The Game was great! It was spirit at its peak."

◆ Josh Larson, '96



Farabaugh photo



Kramer photo



Fordough photo

◆ Sally Gradeless, math teacher and X Squad member, plays the clown at the Quest sponsored "Floops for Hope." All the money raised went to help the needy children in the area.

◆ "Where do you think you're going?" Andrea Rydbell, science teacher, asks Fagan Miller, '96, during the game. Not only was it a first for a student/faculty game, but also for it to be co-ed as well.

Taking the show on

THE ROAD

◆ MHS band struts their stuff as they parade down Broadway

Whether it was the band's playing, poms performing, or the flags' astonishing people with their outstanding expedition, no member of the MHS

Marching Band could have been as confident as they were when they marched down Broadway with the rest of the community watching on the Fourth of July. After about 60 other community partici-

pants in the annual parade, it was MHS's turn to show them what they've got. First came the pom-poms, then the band, and finally the flag corps. Lead by drum majors, Jodi Springman, '95, and Brian Snelson, '96, the whole entourage stole the show, captivating everyone no matter what their race, age, or religion. Everyone seemed to just get calm and watch in astonishment as the 100 plus band paraded their way toward Hidden Lake.

"Marching down Broadway just gave me this feeling, kinda like we had finally arrived. Sure it felt great to march in the Derby and all that, but nothing could compare to being right at home and knowing that the crowd is appreciating all the hard work that goes into something as big as this. What can I say, it was just too great!" commented Springman. When the parade was finally over, you could tell the sense of accomplishment that all the Merrillville students involved felt. Pom-pom, Abby Vivo, '95, summed it all up by saying, "Everyone just seemed to be on cloud nine."

◆ PATRICK FARABAUGH

◆ Presiding over it all, Jerry and Margilee Reinhardt serve as the Grand Marshals for the event. Not only is Reinhardt the director for the auditorium, but he also runs Foss Summer Music Theatre as well.

Say ANYTHING

"Marching down Broadway just gave me this feeling. Kinda like we had finally arrived."

◆ Jodi Springman, '95

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First came the pom-poms, then the band, and finally the flag corps. Lead by drum majors, Jodi Springman, '95, and Brian Snelson, '96, the

Waiting for the signal, Kelly Feilman, '98, prepares to perform her routine. Once around the judge's box all the poms did their best.



MARSHALS
JERRY AND MARGILEE
REINHART



• Sunglasses and all. Julia Zelenda, '95, a flag corps member, waits her turn to go down Ercoway. Over 100 members of the band were at the parade, including poms and flags.



• *Cardenough photo*

• With a lack of exhaustion, drum major Jodi Springman, '95, pushes on. Besides the long hike down Ercoway, the band had to put up with the extreme heat as well.

• Helping to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the parade, the varsity cheerleaders take the easy route as they ride down Ercoway on a fire engine.



Carolough photo

Standing proud, Nancy Pockovski, '95, a poms co-captain, finishes her routine. There were actually three captains, Jennifer Bowley, Pockovski, and Danielle Ramirez, all '95.



Carolough photo

Andy Crone, '96; Jennifer Dainton, Michelle Verbak, both '95; and Kevin Newton, '96; open a game with the national anthem. All are members of the Vocal Teens.



"Give me a P!" shouts varsity cheerleader Alesha Rodriguez, '95. The cheerleaders helped to motivate the crowd with their energetic and sometimes playful cheers.

Getting the crowd

ON THEIR FEET

◆Doms, band, flags, and cheerleaders all help to promote school spirit

◆Eugene Vivo, also known as the Pirate mascot, always tried to get spirit up. Vivo not only served as the mascot, but on the cross country and track teams as well.

◆At the end of her routine, Kristie Troch, '96, throws her arms up in pure excitement. Pom-poms performed at all home game half-times, and all pep rallies as well.

Farrington photo

We've got spirit, yes we do. We've got spirit, how 'bout you?! The start of a new school year brings another year of football, basketball, and many other spirit filled events. Who motivates the students, faculty, and countless alumni to brave wind, rain, and extreme cold to come and root for their Pirates? The cheerleaders, pom-poms, and the popular "Band of Pirates," that's who! These students take hours out of their daily lives to practice and perfect the skills needed to perform in front of hundreds of hyper-active people.

Bobby Verbik, '97, said, "Performing at the games is great way of exciting the crowd and the team. The band is doing more interesting things this year like having Mark Lengyel, '95, tap dance and giving students more solos during halftime."

"The poms are actually a part of the band," said Summer Dicken, '95, "I feel like the poms do a good job of keeping the fans' attention focused on the field even during the time-outs."

The cheerleaders are expected spirit promoters at school functions, and this year they had some great new cheers that allowed the crowd to participate excitedly.

For all Pirate fans, attending athletic events and other activities was a great way to become involved. Being a spirit promoter meant making some noise and cheering the Bucs on to victory.

◆SUSAN FRANKEN

◆Getting involved is one of the many things that Earb Hargland, Jenny Springman, and LaToi Hughes, all '97, do at varsity basketball games. Loud cheers and dazzling routines helped to add to the amount of fan support.

Evans photo

For photo

Sharing a few

MEMORIES

◆ Commencement
introduces the latest
alumni of MHS

The feeling was spectacular. As some students gleamed with satisfaction, some shook their heads in disbelief, as their high school journeys were finally completed with the final steps across the stage. On June 7, 1995, incidentally the

last day of school as well, commencement exercises were held at the Radisson Star Plaza. The graduates, adorned in their caps

and gowns, gathered with family and friends to formally signify their graduation from high school.

Student speakers- valedictorian Angie Corea, salutatorian Leeanne Forbes, and class president Tom Bolden- were followed by the highly acclaimed Roger Crawford, who inspired the crowd by sharing his experience of over-

coming a physical handicap that he preferred to term "an inconvenience." After the speakers, the graduates were individually called to the stage and congratulated with a handshake from superintendent, Dr. Tony Lux. The conversion from childhood into "real world" adulthood was then formally symbolized by the graduates' turning of their tassels from their left side to their right. The ceremony was concluded by the celebratory purple and white balloon drop, after which the newest Merrillville alumni could be seen reveling with joyous hugs throughout the aisles, and eventually on the stage as well. Amidst the joy and victory, though, was the shadow of the knowledge that leaving the theater that night, also meant leaving many high school friends that would be going in different directions.

The sentiment of most students could be summed up by this quote from Matt Lesniak, '95, "It was unbelievable!"

◆ **HERE MAJORS**

◆ "Our paths are like an umbrella, with the cloth between being the memories that tie us together." Angie Corea, valedictorian, spoke of how the class of '95's umbrella is now opening as each member heads their separate way.

◆ Maybe for the last time, Christina Celakeski, '95, hugs Cvetlana Rajnoskeshi, '95 at the end of the ceremony. With the balloons being released and the seniors celebrating, most took the time to say what might have been their final good-byes.



Say **ANYTHING**

"It was unbelievable!"

◆ Matt Lesniak, '95



◆Overcoming obstacles is what Foster Crawford spoke about when he addressed the soon-to-be alumni. Crawford, who considers his disability only an "inconvenience," was proud to share with everyone the time he carried the Olympic torch for the U.S.



◆Accepting the jacket, Coryn Krysa, '95, greets Dr. Tony Lux as she walks across the stage at the Radisson. Krysa was one of the few who not only earned herself an honors diploma, but also a purple and silver cord for Quill and Scroll.

◆New on MIT alumni, Lori Medglin, '95, completes the final act of the class of '95 as she moves her tassel from the right of her cap to the left with the direction of Dr. Daniel C. Rapoce, principle.

◆ Sil Rivera, '95, and Kevin Newton, '96, act out a skit about a tap dancing contest. Newton's character, a good ol' country boy, beat out Mark Lengyel, '95, as the best tap dancer.



◆ Pherrin Lewis, '95, is surrounded by the cast of Revue '95, as he sings an African folk song, "It Takes a Whole Village to Raise a Child."



◆ United Colors, gets the crowd on their feet. The group danced to a mix of the year's popular dance music.

◆ Ashley Estes, '96, sings "Somewhere, Somehow" by Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith with Bryan Phillips, '97.



Revue takes on a NEW LOOK

◆ New faces add variety to the performance

Mr. Zolfo, I have a great way to open the show." These words echoed over the heads of the anxious Revue goers as they awaited a spectacular show.

And that it was. The Revue had a great turn out and proved to be quite entertaining. It had a variety of skits and dance routines. There was cultural music performed by the Vivo's, Abby '95, and Eugene, '97, original oratory by Irene Halkias, '95; along with tap dancing by Mark Lengyel, '95. Comical skits were performed by Sidney Rivera, '95. Some new-comers to the Revue cast were Lisa Taylor, Jason Reed, both '96, and the band Antistar. The band was made up of Tim Little, Dave Sierkowski, both '96, and Mike Rathburn, '97. Overall the band was a hit. The crowd definitely enjoyed the band's remake of the famous U2 song "With or Without You." Pherrin Lewis, '96, did an outstanding job with the whole Revue cast for "It Takes a Whole Village to Raise a Child." But overall, what

was the best part of the Revue '95? Well according to Lengyel, "I met a lot of people that I never knew before, and there is a lot of talent in this school." Some very unexpected events occurred during the show.

One of them was the appearance of Waldo, who would quickly run across the stage at the most unexpected moments. Waldo was portrayed by Reed, who contributed much enthusiasm to the show, along with the other members of the cast. All in all the show was very humorous and really showed what talent is hidden at MHS. The cast worked very well together to put on an excellent performance and left everyone anticipating next year's Revue.

Say ANYTHING

"I met a lot of people that I never knew before, and there is a lot of talent in this school."

◆ Mark Lengyel, '95

◆ SARAH BURT

◆ Sam Carler, '97, and Al Barber, '97, perform "I'm not Poppa!" during the Revue.



◆ Kimberly Pere, '97, performs a ballet routine to the song, "Beauty and the Beast." Pere is also a cheerleader during both football and basketball season.

Giving them all our

SUPPORT

◆ Homecoming and All-Sport pep rallies boost student morale

Pep rallies are very rare at MHS. Especially in-school rallies. September 22 our very first pep rally of the year was held at Demaree Stadium in the tradition of Homecoming. Before the powder puff game started, Student Government president Patrick Farabaugh spoke to hype the student body up. Mr. Football was announced before the powder puff festivities began, and Coach Rick Wimer proudly handed over the football to Kevin Emy, '95.

Contains Mike Mikesell and '95, also...
...latter assure the positive attitudes and tremendous spirit of the student body. This Homecoming pep rally was a great motivation for the 94-95 Pirates football team and fans.

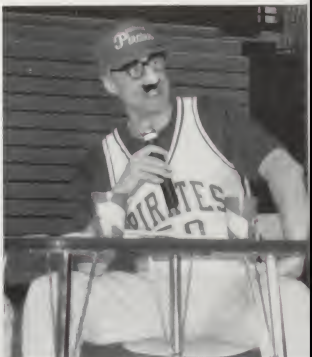
September 30th, and March 3rd were the MHS in-school pep rallies. During last hour the student body was dismissed to the gym. The September 30th pep rally was to hype the students up for the Andrean 49ers game vs. the Pirates and to gain spirit for winter sports. The March 3rd pep rally was to cheer the Pirates on to regionals and for spring sports. At each rally a contest between the classes was held to determine the loudest class, (more like a shouting match). Many could tell this contest was basically between the juniors and seniors, although the other underclassmen proved that they also have big lungs and loud mouths. Even though the class of '96 is much bigger than the class of '95, the seniors came out on top at both rallies.

Although our pep rallies are sometimes short and few, they are very effective on bringing out the student body's school spirit. Pirate spirit and enthusiasm is something that many schools would be proud to show.

◆ JAMIE MCKENNEY

◆ Do Superfans. Meeting on SNL did, Dr. Tony Lux, shows his support for son T.J. at a community pep rally before the team went to state. Fifth Lux and Jerry McCarty posed as the two devoted fans.

◆ Before the Pirates went to the Dome, the players' mothers portrayed them by sporting basketball hats and jerseys with their sons' number on them. While Coach East's wife, Marlene East, acted as the coach of the pep rally.



Farabaugh photo

Say ANYTHING

"I think they're great because you get out of last hour, and it motivates the school to get riled up."

◆ Jason Lockhart, '96



Funkhouser photo

◆ Chris DeMure, '96, class president, holds up the phrase his class had to shout out during a spirit point competition. The class that was the loudest won the points. DeMure is still a little sticky after getting hit in the face with a pie by Tom Elden, '95 class president.

◆ Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz points to the class that won the spirit point competition at the fall all-sport pep rally. Spirit point competitions are the main event at the pep rallies.

Class of '95 caught

HAVING FUN

◆ Traditional activities give seniors the chance to share their last few days together

Just because the lock-in was canceled, doesn't mean the seniors were left with nothing to do. With the breakfast, drive-around, and Baccalaureate, most seniors had a hard enough time trying to keep up with all of their activities.

Say ANYTHING

"Since it was such a nice day, we went to West Beach and hung out there."

◆ Monica Baez, '95

At the breakfast, there was an all you can eat buffet and an awards ceremony afterwards. But during the breakfast, the main concern was people being with their friends. This was basically the last time all of the seniors could be together until commencement. Some of the awards, voted on by the seniors themselves, were given to: Tom Bolden and Irene Halkias for Most Likely to Succeed, Kevin Erny and Leah Frink for Most Popular, Patrick Farabaugh and Irene Halkias for Most Actively Involved, and Matt Lesniak and Abby Vivo

for the Most Spirited.

Countless pictures were being taken amongst all the excitement about what to do afterwards. Since the seniors were given the day off, some went to the beach, while others attended the grand opening of the Deep River Waterpark. Monica Baez, '95, said, "Since it was such a nice day, we went to West Beach and hung out there." Kevin Smith, '95, who attended the opening of the waterpark, commented, "It was pretty cool except it's going to be pretty pathetic when it gets over populated due to the fact there are very few slides." At least it was fun when it had to be.

Another senior activity was the nondenominational Baccalaureate service. The featured speaker, Irene Halkias, inspired the class of '95 by comparing graduation to roller coasters and describing the anticipation of it all. The ceremony lasted for about 45 minutes with the choir closing with "The Lord Bless You and Keep You." For most people this was just a practice for the real thing—COMMENCEMENT!

◆ DEBBIE ELIZONDO

◆ "Everybody say cheese!!!" Michelle Ernden, '95, takes some time out to video tape her fellow seniors on their way out of the baccalaureate service.

◆ Class Clown Ryan Farlock stands next to Mr. "Most likely to succeed" himself, Tom Bolden. Bolden presented the senior choice awards at the breakfast.

2KS
KS



McFerry photo



◆Tadeisha Williams, '95, got her 15 minutes of fame when she spoke to the entire class before the breakfast was over. Williams talked of all the memories, good or bad, that Merrillville has given her.



McHenry photo



McHenry photo

◆David Gonzales, '95, glances through his senior mag. Unlike years past, the cost for the magazine, which contains all the senior wails, was tucked onto the breakfast ticket along with the meal itself.

◆"And they're off!!!!" Seniors make their way out to the parking lot for the annual drive around. This was the only time a senior could actually "lay" his way out of a day of school.

◆Natie Speller, '90, and date show their feeling during one of the many slow songs of Prem. Speller was one of many who thought that the theme fit perfectly.



◆Prem sponsor, Maryann Foster signs in Beth Lawrence Griffith and Mary Forsens. Foster was in for a surprise later when her son, Joe, was named Prem King.

◆Leading a tradition, Prem court member, Chris Muvreski, '90, and Prem Queen, Beth Juske, '90, go through the hall and outside for the Grand March.



Making the night

BEAUTIFUL

◆ Warm weather arrived just in time. What a "Beautiful" night it was

◆ How often is it that you get to crown your own cousin Prom Queen? That's exactly what happened when Leah Frink, '95, crowned Beth Jusko, '96, her successor.

Heaven." The decoration theme fit perfectly as you walked into Prom '95 at the St. Elijah Serbian-American Hall. Beautiful white columns were adorned with glistening gold streamers that lead up to an array of feather white balloons. They had a soft appeal twenty feet above the dance floor. Out by the registration table, a decor of powdery white cotton graced the floor to resemble soft clouds, while on the walls, the mural of the sky itself seemed to relax your mind and put you in the mood for the romance, that is Prom.

After dinner, students found the time to converse for what could have been the last time as the junior class sent out its final song request to the seniors on a tearful note.

Another face to Prom was the royalty that graced the stage around 9:00. The '94 Queen, Leah Frink, '95, had the honor of crowning her own cousin, Beth Jusko, '96, her successor, while other court members, April Pratcher, Alyssa Wright, and Marisol Melendez accepted their roses. In the same manner, T.J. Lux,

'95 got to pass on his title to Joe Foster, '96, with Travis Schmidt, Marino Stath, and Chris Muvceski, all '96, standing next to him. Both Jusko and Foster had the chance to lead the Grand March which took everyone in attendance around the hall, through the parking lot, and back to the floor that had made so much magic only moments before.

"Being on Prom Court was a really neat experience. Even though I didn't win, I had a lot of fun at Prom. The next day at Great America was great. All in all, the whole weekend was great," Travis Schmidt, '96.

As the new royalty shared their first dance, "Beautiful in My Eyes," the song of the evening, seemed to have found its place within everyone as they caught themselves gazing at the two having the time of their lives. It was clear that Prom was everything it was supposed to be and more.

◆ PATRICK FARABAUGH

◆ "They never can set it on gently," comments Tom Herbert. Around 9:00, T.J. Lux got to crown Joe Foster, '96, the new Prom King.

Say **ANYTHING**

"All in all, the whole weekend was great!"

◆ Travis Schmidt, '96



◆ Ann Marie Laurel, '98, helps her class remove the mittens from the hot and mitten tree as a part of the Freshman Class service project.

Crowe photo

◆ "I think you did pretty good," comments Cheryl Gonzalez as Devin and Maria Franges, all '96, help to add up all the spirit points that they earned for their senior homeroom.



Fordwirth photo

Classes become

COLORFUL

◆ Class projects give students a chance to work together as a team

Are you proud to be a Pirate!?" screamed the cheerleaders at the Pirate's state basketball final. The sophomore and senior classes decided to combine their class projects and show just how proud they were to wear the purple and white.

◆ Before the Pirates made the trip down to Indy, the Sophomore Class decided to paint the windows of every car going to the dome. Sophomore Class vice-president, John Miller, paints GC EUCS on one of the many cars.

When John Miller, Vice-President of the Sophomore Class realized that other schools at semi-state had come down with their cars decorated, he decided that Merrillville needed to show more spirit. He got the other Sophomore Class officers, President Joe Moore, Secretary Jenny Johnson, and Treasurer, Jenny Pozniak, and together they decided to decorate any cars going to state. Free of charge.

"We used the money of our sophomore funds, and Santa pictures [a fund raiser]," said Moore.

"We wanted to show that Merrillville has school spirit," added Johnson.

They showed just that as students, parents, and teachers from Merrillville came to the student parking lot the Friday before the game.

"We used the extra paint to

paint peoples' faces at the game," said Johnson.

The Senior Class can always use extra money for things like Senior Breakfast, Commencement, and so on. So why not combine spirit and a fundraiser?

"We had a meeting, and we were looking for some magazines, and we got the idea,"

said senior class vice-president Irene Halkias.

The idea was to sell some "foam fingers" at the state game. Though they did not do too well with the high school students, they had other ways to do business.

"Initially, we sold them for four dollars, but they weren't really selling so we brought it down to three. We took them to the middle and elementary schools and they did real well there," explained senior class sponsor, Maggie Stallings. She added, "We sold all of them."

Say ANYTHING

"We wanted to show that Merrillville has school spirit."

◆ Jennifer Johnson, '97

◆ ARNITH TEJARA

◆ Sorting through some of the gifts, Arnith Tejara, '96, tries to straighten out some of the presents that each homeroom brought in as a part of the Christmas Wish List.

◆And the winners are, Brett Fedak, king, and Kathy Cannon, queen, both '95. This was the first year a homecoming king was crowned.

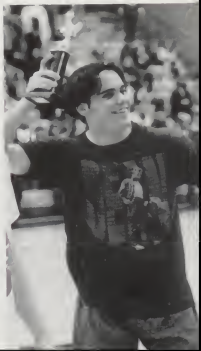


◆Reading to the announcement, Dianna Hammer, '98, finds out that she won the honor of being the Freshman Princess. Hammer was escorted by Adam Creasbaum, '95.



◆Mary Clay doesn't give it a second thought when she decides to join the pep band in the middle of halftime. The band played both the chicken song and the school song during their show.

◆Showing off his trophy, Matt Lesniak, '95, stands proud as the recipient of the Flat Legs award. Because of the length of halftime, Flat Legs was held after the game.



Both a King and Queen get

CROWNED

◆ Tradition added
to the annual
halftime event

◆ Having the crown placed on her head by Student Government President, Patrick Farabaugh, '95, Kathy Cannon, '95, grins with anxiety and surprise.

◆ Riding in the award-winning float, Brad Bakerak, '97, pops his head up as Joe Moore, '97, pushes him out onto the court during halftime.

Pirates on a War Path" set off our annual Basketball Homecoming week this year. With all of the excitement and activities, how could our mighty Bucs not have annihilated the Portage Indians? Student spirit began to intensify starting on Monday, February 6, when Opposite Shoe Day went into effect. That was followed by four more spirit days, including Dress-Up Day, and the new and surprisingly popular Army/Camouflage Day.

Every class had a winner on Friday night during halftime of the Portage game. At this time, the long awaited Homecoming Queen/Princess pageant was held. Senior court consisted of Homecoming Queen Kathy Cannon, Erin Janovsky, Cynthia Garcia, Danielle Ramirez, and Aleisha Rodriguez. Cannon remembered her feelings, "I was very surprised. I was happy and excited all at the same time." Their male counterparts included Homecoming King Brett Fedak, T.J. Lux, Ryan Parlock, Ryan Rethel, and Sidney Rivera. Marianne Maj was crowned Junior Princess. Rebekah Jusko was Sophomore Princess, and Diana

Hammer was Freshman Princess.

Fun and festivities continued through the evening as the classes demonstrated their artistic abilities with the float contest. The Sophomores came out victorious with their mobile tank. And what about those "hot legs"? That noble honor went to Matt Lesniak, when the crowd gave him the loudest holler. Lesniak claims, "I was honored to be picked. It was the first time I had ever won anything in my entire life. What a thrill!"

Even the boys basketball team was triumphant in their conquest to scalp the Indians. Not only did our Pirates defeat the Indians, but they also put on a show that kept an excited audience standing throughout the game.

Where else could you find a princess, a state-ranked basketball team, a couple of floats, and some guy with hot legs all at the same time? ◆CARYN KRYSA

Say ANYTHING

"I was very surprised. I was happy and excited all at the same time."

◆Kathy Cannon, '95



Student body tries to

REACH OUT

◆ Different events showcase
MHS's responsibility to the
community

Not only did spirit shine throughout the school, but in the community as well. Throughout the year different projects were sponsored by different organizations, such as Student Government and HERO, that allowed MHS to show off its social conscience a little more while giving something back to the community at the same time.

Say ANYTHING

"I think the drive is a great idea. Who knows who you'll be helping!"

◆ Kellie Bosenbark, '95

The first was the Thanksgiving food drive, co-sponsored by the National Honor Society and Student Government. Announcements were made, signs were hung and flyers were distributed. All asked for homerooms to bring in non-perishable food to help the less fortunate around the holidays. To the astonishment of Rosellen Kozel, Student Government adviser, and Beverly Ambrozziak, NHS co-sponsor, the final totals topped that of last year's 4,000 pounds. A whopping 4,500 was delivered to the St. Peter and Paul Parish.

The next big event to take place was the annual blood

drive. After serious consideration, the HERO class decided to move the date of the drive up, since the blood supplies seem to be at their lowest around November-December. Again after much publicity, students eager to get out of class lined up outside the gym with their sleeves rolled up ready to donate. And as in years past, this proved to be a successful venture as well. "I think the drive is a great idea. Who knows who you'll be helping!" states Kellie Bosenbark, '95. Bosenbark and others gave their services which helped to benefit the community.

Around Christmas time everyone thinks about the needy, and MHS was no exception. Both the annual toy drive, also sponsored by Student Government and NHS, and the hat and mitten tree, which was the FreshmanClass service project, helped to give the needy of Merrillville a merry Christmas. The wish list helped 108 children and truly brought the school together. Not only homerooms adopted a child, but so did, the cafeteria staff, maintenance, the bus garage, the administration, and even FEA.

All in all, MHS proved that there is more to spirit when it comes to the community.

◆ PATRICK FARABAUGH

◆ Trying to find out the final amount, Carrie Sullivan, '95, adds up the amount of food from each homeroom. Altogether, over 4,500 pounds were collected.

◆ "Watch it, this one's pretty heavy," states Megan McInerney, '95, as she helps in the chain to get the food from the busses down into the parish's pantry at St. Peter and Paul. After making sure all the food ended up in the pantry, both organizations went out to eat at a local McDonalds.



C. Farley



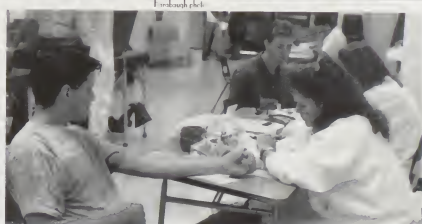
◆ Jennifer Johnson, '97, and Paul Fikes, '95, pose with Santa Claus, really Wilfred Vice, '94 graduate, to have their holiday picture taken. Pictures with Santa were offered in the commons as a part of the Sophomore Class' community service project.



Fordough photo



Cramer photo



Esmond photo

◆ Alyssa Wright and Marc Felm, both '96, help to get boxes in the bus for the annual Christmas Wish List. Both Felm and Wright are active in government.

◆ "It won't hurt will it?" asks Carl Sims, '96, as he prepares to donate blood. Sims missed class to have a needle prick them and lie down until he was able to return.

◆ Helping to collect the hat and mitten tree's useful ornaments, Eric Herbert, '98, gets out of class to deliver the items to the Salvation Army.

Student spirit wars

RAGE ON

◆ Class trip has students competing for points

Dances, choir programs, the Revue, and all homecoming festivities are just a few of the many ways to earn points to win the annual spirit point competition. What's the grand prize? The winning class usually chooses to go

to the Indiana Dunes which doesn't cost them anything, but they may choose to go to Great America in which case each student would have to pay for the price of his ticket.

◆ Kellee Derico, '95

Throughout the school year, attendance and grades are averaged at different intervals for spirit points. A set number of points is given to the first, second, third, and fourth place classes. This is the method of distributing points for most spirit point related competitions. Homecoming week during football and basketball is a major spirit point competition. This year's basketball homecoming week consisted of oppo-

sition shoe day, dress up day, army day, class colors day, and of course, purple and white day. In fact, every Friday is purple and white day. Kellee Derico, '95, commented, "I think seniors should wear more purple and white in order to go on the trip." Homeroom teachers are in charge of counting the participants and sending the count down to the office. Holidays such as Halloween and Valentine's Day are also opportunities to earn spirit points by wearing the corresponding holiday colors.

The week of February 20th to the 24th, all class officers carried around a red bucket asking for spare change to benefit Riley Children's Hospital.

At the March 3 pep rally sponsored by Student Government, each class had its own rope with an inch of rope given for every dime that was raised by that class. The sophomores raised the most money and won the spirit competition. The seniors and juniors came within two dollars of each other, and the freshmen finished in fourth place. MHS successfully raised over four hundred dollars for the hospital.

◆ JENNIFER BEWLEY

◆ "So, how's it taste?" Chris DeMure, '96, gets a pie in his face from Tom Edden, '95, as a part of Student Government's Spirit Link competition.

◆ Joe Moore, '97, helped to cheer on his class during the winter all-team pep rally. Moore was the other class officer who got a pie right between the eyes, courtesy of Ronald Edden, class of '98 president.



Courtesy photo

Say **ANYTHING**

"I think seniors should wear more purple and white so we can go on the trip."



Crowd photo



Food drive photo

◆ During Basketball Homecoming, Rob Flores, '06, curls around Fidee Evans, '06, as he takes to the court for the annual Homecoming parade. The theme, "Pirates on a Warpath," suited the Football game.

◆ The Thanksgiving Food Drive gave the classes a chance to earn spirit points while helping the community at the same time. Cheryl Gonzalez, '93, checks in some of the food for the event sponsored by Honor Society and Student Government.





◆ The annual Homecoming dance was held in September in the Hall of Flags. Tickets were sold weeks prior at \$20 a couple.



Fordough photo

◆ Nick Brosnan, '97, and Amy Gutierrez, '97, get their picture taken during one of the many dances. Students had to wait in line for a while to get pictures taken.



Fordough photo

Dances let students get

TOGETHER

◆ School dances offered students a place to get together.

From the Electric Slide to the Tootsie Roll, students had plenty of opportunities to do it all this year. School dances created many memories throughout the year. Whether the dance was semi-formal or casual, teenagers could be found in the Hall of Flags enjoying the evening with friends.

The school year began with a WMHS sponsored dance held after the first football game. Kelly Coughlin, '95 said, "It was a great opportunity for all of us to get together." She was one of the many people who came to the dance to socialize and start the new school year off on the right foot. Then with a change from casual to semi-formal, the annual Homecoming Dance was held that same month. Many Student Government members set up the decorations which added an extra effect to the evening. "The line to take pictures was enormous," comments Eric Randolph, '95, who spent most of his evening with his date waiting.

National Honor Society members felt that it was time for another casual, "get-together" dance in December. So plans were made to hold

another dance in the Hall of Flags after the big Merrillville-Hobart football game. "It was a place everyone could go to celebrate after the Hobart victory," adds Samantha Corrigan, '95.

Various other dances were also held throughout the year.

Two other semi-formal dances include the Turnabout Dance and the Spring Dance. The Turnabout dance which was held in early December created mixed emotions. There weren't too many complaints, but a couple of them were stolen flowers and a shortage of punch. Two other dances which were held during the year were the annual Kiss the Pig Dance and the Basketball Homecoming Dance, which was an informal dance held in February.

Dances seem to create an atmosphere that is very unique. Students gather together and most of the time, have a very enjoyable evening.

◆ NANCY PACHOWSKI

Say ANYTHING

"It was a great opportunity for all of us to get together."

◆ Kelly Coughlin, '95

◆ Getting ready for the dance.

Jennifer Sanders, '98, and Maclean Krisko, '97, decorate by stringing balloons up from the floor in the hall of flags.

Fordough photo

◆ Rob Flores, '96, and Joe Chambers, '95, dance among the crowd of students. Many dances were held after sports events.

When parents are

WATCHING

◆ Some students must learn to get along with their parents at MHS

They were there at birth, they are there in times of trouble, and they are there whenever they needed. Who are these people?

Say ANYTHING

"I like the fact that she is there anytime I need anything."

◆ Jenny Draper, '96

and Jim Vermillion are a few of the students who have a parent who work at Merrillville High School.

"I like the fact that she is there anytime I need anything," says Jenny Draper, '96.

Jim Vermillion, '95, adds, "It is not as bad as most people

would think because I don't see my dad much during school."

Draper's mother, Nancy Draper, a math teacher, said, "I like working at the same school that my daughter goes to. It allows me to make sure that she is not getting in too much trouble. Plus, I am also here whenever Jenny needs anything."

It's hard to be a teenager and be careful of everything one does, especially when parents are watching. When the student does get into trouble, more than likely before the end of the day mom or dad will know about it. It may also reflect badly on the parent.

"I don't like the fact that she knows everything that happens to me, and if I were to get into some trouble she always knows," says the younger Draper.

◆ MATT NAVARRO

◆ Nancy Draper, math teacher, shows her daughter how to complete a problem in their last period class. Jenny, '96, somehow had her mom as a teacher for class second semester.



Essential photo

◆ Stepping in for a moment, Brian Hogan, '95, takes the time to see how mom Carol is doing in the main office. Brian also has two younger sisters who attend school here.

◆ Helping their mom Nikki by delivering balloons to last hour classes, daughters Beth, '96, and Rebekah Juske, '97, take time out of their classes.



Essential photo



Essential photo



Essential photo

◆ During passing period, Erickette Zellers, '05, stops by the guidance office to see how her mom, Debbie, is doing.

◆ "What did I do this time?" asks Eren Corleyn, '05, as Shirley Corleyn takes matters into her own hands.



Foster photo

Joe and John Foster enjoy their trip to the Painted Desert in Arizona over the summer. Both Fosters attend MHS and their mom, Maryann, is an art teacher here as well.

Lori Doylepoulos, '06, stands on the deck as she looks out upon the rich blue waters surrounding Greece. Doylepoulos visited there over the past summer.



ANYTHING GOES

STUDENT LIFE

Life outside of MHS often proved to be just as entertaining, if not more entertaining, than what happens within the walls of the high school. From hanging around town at local eateries to vacationing in the Bahamas, MHS students proved that when it comes to having a good time, **ANYTHING GOES**

◆ There really is a place called the Beach Motel. Cynthia Garcia, Raquel Garcia, and Abby Vico, all '95, all went on the trip down to North Knox for the IASC State Convention. But on the way they decided to stop and visit the IU campus in Bloomington.



◆ Jay Marins, '95, crashed after the first day of Woodstock. Not only did Marins go, but also Jenni Kandolph, Iris Reberg, Enika Yambrosak, and Nicole Piatl, all '95.

K. Kandolph photo

F. Fardough photo

Anything goes

◆ What club or sport keeps you after school the most and why?



"I'm responsible for 11 sports. Those 11 sports are all during different seasons."

-Tom Cameron, asst. athletic director

"Poms, because it is a lot of work and practice."

-Melissa Clark, '97



"Basketball, because we have to practice everyday for two hours, and I stay another half hour."

-Lori Modglin, '95

"Cheerleading, because the stunts take a lot of time to work on."

-Rilee Evans, '96



"Sunshine Society, because I'm in love with Ms. Rybolt and her sister."

-Jeff Hendricks, '95

◆ Conducted by:

SARAH BURT & TRACY PARKER




◆ Learning up with WYIN-TV, better known as channel 56, WYIN-TV tapes a soccer game behind Denease Stadium. Judy Adams, '95, worked on the slow motion for the game while other club members were taping it.

◆ As band members lock on, Christina Petersen, '96, twirls her ribbon as part of the flag corps routine during a half time at a football game at Denease Stadium. Michelle King, English teacher, was the director this year.

STAYING *after hours*

Clubs and activities keep students at MHS so long it makes high school seem like a second home



◊ Working for the Student Government "Pump Up the Volume" committee, Aleisha Rodriguez, '95, the committee chairperson, helps make signs supporting the girls basketball team. The committee was designed to help generate school spirit.

Fordough photo.

It's 7 A.M., and while some kids are still in bed trying to catch a few more precious moments of sleep, there are actually a lot of students already at the high school beginning their days. Because of various activities, many students have to come to school early and stay late. High school can almost be considered a second home to them.

For instance, WMHS, the broadcasting club, meets at least twice a week before 7:00 A.M., and almost everyday after school. More commonly, students stay after school to work out, and get in shape. Adam Creasbaum, '95, comments, "I work out almost everyday until whenever, and you can really consider MHS a second home when you are only home for an hour besides the time it takes to sleep."

Clubs not only take a lot of time here at MHS, but so do some athletics. Cheerleading, for instance, practices weekly and has games once or twice a week. But in addition to that, the cheerleaders dedicate much more of their time. Missy McCorry, '96, comments, "We practice weekly, but we also stay after school to decorate the locker rooms for the guys,

and we also practice before games. Sometimes we get so pressed for time that we end up stuffing fast food down our throats on the way to the high school, or right before a game."

Another group that treats MHS as a second home is the choir. Since it is sectioned off into Show Choir, Concert Choir, and VocalTeens, special practices have to be held in order to keep it separate and under control. Choir students spend some time after school and even on the weekends either learning dance steps, or lines to certain songs. They also have morning practices for weeks right around show time.

According to Jason Reed, '96, "The speech team meets a few times a week, and our actual meets are on Saturday mornings. Sometimes we have to be there as early as 5:30 A.M."

One advantage to MHS is its wide selection of groups, organizations, and athletics. But you often have to give up some of your free time in the mornings and after school if you want to be involved in more than one. How can MHS not be considered a second home to some students, especially the ones who go home purely to sleep?

◊ KIMBERLY ANDERSON



COMING TO america

The chance to be a part of a different culture brings six students from different countries to MHS

A home away from home. That's what foreign exchange students from Spain, Germany, Italy, Japan, Denmark and France are calling Merrillville, Indiana. These teenagers chose to spend their last year of high school in another country to experience different cultures.

Elisa Perin, '95, said, "Many things are different here from Italy: the people, the habits, the lifestyle, and the school system. I am not used to waking up at 6:00 in the morning!!!" Perin enjoys the school. She says "The people are nice, and they are very helpful. The school system in Italy is more academic, and not as sports oriented," she adds.

"In Germany, we don't use our car as often because in the German cities, we have a lot of public transportation," comments Philipp Lammich, '95.

How would you like to be eighteen and have to pay around one thousand dollars to be able to obtain a driver's license? This is customary for teenagers in Denmark.

Signe Nielsen, '95, plays soccer on the school team. "Soccer is very popular in Denmark like football is here," she said. "Denmark won the European championship in soccer in 1992!"

The school system is different here from that of Denmark because the students

do not change classes. They simply remain in one classroom, and the teachers rotate. The students do not have a standard schedule every day, but every week.

"We always write from the top to the bottom, and we always read from the right to the left. We also use Chinese characters," explains Erika Nikki, '95.

Marlyse Dumora, '95, comes from France. The daily schedule is different from the usual schedule American's have. Dumora said, "The schools and jobs start at 8 A.M. We stop at noon for a two hour lunch break. We go back to work or school at 2 P.M. until 5 P.M. We eat dinner between 8 and 10 P.M."

"Things in Spain are not similar to those in America. People, especially the young adults, use the bus as their means of transportation. We can drink and smoke at 16, but we can not drive until we are 18," remarks Laura Candela, '95. To Candela, Americans are more patriotic than the people in Spain. "We do not have a pledge of allegiance before games or the start of school," she adds.

The main goal of most of the exchange students is to have fun and observe the way the Americans live and their customs. To them, America is everything they could have hoped it would be and more.

◆ Not only did she come to America to learn about the culture, she came to teach math as well! Marlyse Dumora, France, helps a new student with her geometry homework long after school has let out.



◆ SHARON BUKOVAC

Anything goes

◆ What do you think of life at Merrillville High School?



"I like it, but it is very, very big!"
-Elisa Perin, Italy



"I love it, except there is too much fat in the hamburgers."
-Erika NIKKI, Japan



"It's great, but the people eat all the time!"
-Mariyse Dumora, France



"It's very modern here. It's better than I thought."
-Laura Candela, Spain



"I don't know, huge I guess."
-Philipp Lammich, Germany

◆ Conducted by:

PAIRICK FARAFEAUGE & KIM ANDERSON



Farafea photo



Farafea photo

◆ Getting a few more moments of sleep, Laura Candela takes a quick snooze on the bus ride to the Student Government Convention down in North Knox, Indiana. Student Government also stopped at I.U. Ellettington to get a guided tour of the campus from MHS alumni.

◆ Gathered for a quaint group photo, Mariyse Dumora, France; Laura Candela, Spain; Elisa Perin-Italy, Italy; Signe Nielsen, Denmark; and Erika Nikki, Japan, wait to return to class. Learning English proved to be the hardest task for everyone here.

Anything goes

◆ What type of job would you least likely want to do?



"A janitor. I don't want to clean up disgusting stuff."
-Josh Christoff, '98

"Work at McDonalds. I wouldn't want my mom to visit me there."
-Marysa Wright, '98



"To be a teacher because they don't get paid enough."
-Twanna Allen, '97

"Prostitution because it is sinful."
-Summer Dicken, '95



"I cleaned the out houses for the parks department one summer. I actually did this!!!"
-Rick Wimmer

◆ Conducted by:
CASECIE PARETE & TRACY PARETE



◆ Eving patient is one of the most desired qualities in a worker, as Nicole Elliott, '95, finds out. Elliott, along with many other students all had jobs at Southlake Mall. Gloria Jean's was just one store of the many that employed MHS students as part time help.

◆ Polishing and packaging silver is one of the requirements at "Things Remembered." Kelly Fejelski, '95, had to put in many hours around Christmas time due to the crowds of people going in and out of the store buying engraved gifts that added the personal touch.

WORKING *for a living*

From McDonalds to the mall, to even homework, each student has some type of job to do



◆ Training is one of the many things that Sarah Feltz, '96, has to do as a waitress in the Forest Room. Feltz, Mark Mazany, '97, and other MHS students work in the dining room at Lewne Centre.

Foranough photo



To some, a job is something that students either need or wish to have. Whether it be to make some sort of payment, or for some extra spending money, everyone is in search of that valuable cash. Then there are always those students who don't want a job, but can't get out of having one. They're usually the ones who can be found in tenth period, dreading the fact that within an hour they'll be on their way to work.

There are also those students who look at school as a job, which it could be considered. Doing homework can also pose certain problems for students. After all, it's a job in itself. Some hardly have any homework, while others cannot find enough time to do even half of their homework. Tom Shultz, '95, says, "What's homework?" Maybe he is one of those people who have none at all. Then there are those

who can find the time for it between both work and school. "I stay up until 2:00 in the morning to finish it," says Corey McDermott, '95.

A few students are lucky enough to hold a job where they can do their homework while they are working. An example of this would be the HERO or COE programs. Both of these offer students the chance to earn credits while making the ever-so-wanted money. Then for those who can't afford taking off a half day of school everyday, there's always McDonalds or Burger King, and don't forget all the different jobs at Southlake Mall.

No matter what the job might be, homework is also one of students' most important jobs during the school year. Keeping up studies is just as important as lifting heavy objects.

◆ ANDY CRANE



◆ Encouraging the candles and collectibles at "Wicks 'n' Sticks," Megan Wojciechowski, '95, works diligently to create a display. Wojciechowski usually had to go to Southlake Mall directly after school to get to work on time.

Foranough photo

LOOKING *snazzy*

Fashion was displayed throughout the student body, from the clothes they wear to the way they act

Ever look in your closet and not know what to wear? Well, if you are going to school to fit in that's what most students do. For example, sophomore vice president, John Miller, prefers to blend in by dressing with a more formal attire. "I don't mind the people who stand out at all, in fact, they add a nice variety to our student body." Steve McFarland, '96, states, "I dress different because I don't want to feel like I need to fit into a clique. You don't have to fit in to look good."

Although everyone dresses differently, no one seems to

admit it. Take Aarthi Tejuja, '96, "I don't dress to fit in, sort of to blend in, but not really," she admits.

Everyone seems to dress to express themselves, whether it be hip hop or grunge, or even something from the past. Students are always in search of style. Cliff Hughes, '96, asked, "Isn't that a late sixties thing?" and then went on to say he dresses "loose, because it's me, and the girls like it."

Anyhow, no matter how much everyone looks the same, for the one millionth time: "It's what's on the inside that counts!"

◆ CAMDICE PARKER

◆ Judy Adams, '95, sorts through the endless amount of clothes on display at Networks. Style seemed to soar as grunge came in and hip hop stood strong as the two dominant looks for the year.



Essenbach photo

◆ I trying things on often helps students figure out if they really want it or not, as Shelly Eedecker, '95, finds out. Eedecker not only shops at the mall, but also works in the American Eagle Outfitter located there.





Farabough photo



C. Parker photo

◆ Shopping for Christmas seems to be all that's on Jennifer Wood's mind as she looks for a gift to give her mother. Wood, '95, became a frequent visitor to Value City, the newest store by the mall.

◆ Jamie Aubin, Vanessa Biedowski, Kelly Walters, Deidre Elizondo, Angie Elliott, and Tracy Parker, all '95, shop together to find a dress for one of the many dances held throughout the year.

Anything goes

◆ How do the clothes you wear affect your personality?



"They may give the wrong idea of your personality."
-Erica Brown, '96

"My clothes are in different moods when I'm in different moods."
-Dymeata Jones, '97



"It doesn't, because I like my clothes."
-Tom Cseke, '96

"The clothes you wear affect your personality and those around you."
-Jason Joselyn, '96



"I think they reflect on your inner-person."
-Joe Foster, '96

◆ Conducted by:
JOSH LARSON & TRACY PARKER

Anything goes

◆ What was it like having your senior pictures taken?



"It was me sitting down and him taking the picture, and it was a waste of time."

-Junior Baldazo, '95

"I had loads and loads of fun."

-Ben Ortegon, '95



"Kuh?"

-Jason Berk, '95

"To tell you the truth, it was boring. I don't like getting all dressed up."

-Kevin Schafer, '95



"He was trying to speak Spanish to me and I only understand half of what he said."

-Danielle Ramirez, '95

◆ Conducted by:

CANDICE PARKER & TRACY PARKER



◆ Smile and be sure to look pretty! Cindy Frost, '95, utilizes one of the different platforms that Grigas uses to help make a more stationary looking picture. Many students took advantage of these to help give their arms a break. After all, modeling is no easy work.

◆ Feeling like a model, Laurie Wojtowicz, poses up against one of the many props that John Grigas has to offer. Backgrounds ranged from a simple drapery to something as extravagant as hangings with different lights positioned to display the year of the graduate.

PLAYING *The model*

Seniors find that going to have their pictures taken isn't much different than a modeling session



◆ Getting her senior pictures taken, Irene Falkias, '95, poses for Giolas photographer, John Eir. Eir became a familiar face to MHS students, since he photographed almost every senior.

Fairbrough photo

Caught in an episode of Models Inc.? So it may seem to the seniors who first arrive at Giolas Photographers. Each year, the upper classmen make that exciting trip to shoot their senior pictures. As they stroll down the hallway, they are met by the familiar faces of former twelfth graders. Soon, they enter the actual studio, and feel like they have been transported into another world. "I felt like a super model," Erica Walla, '95, said. John Bir, the expe-

rienced and very talented photographer for Giolas has been working there for about six years. He states, "I've been interested in, and practicing photography since I was about twelve."

"The up-to-date music is used as a common denominator, and helps put teenagers at ease," John Giolas stated. Even the decor of the studio, with the numerous props and lights, transports students into their own fantasy world.

◆ LAURIE WJOLOWICZ

◆ Friends Forever, or that's how the saying goes as Jennifer Ewley, Deirdre Flazende, Laurie Wojtowicz, and Irene Falkias, all '95, arrange to be photographed together. Students often brought in either a friend or objects that helped to make their pictures more personalized.



Fairbrough photo

VISITING *Germany*

One summertime alternative
found MHS students back in
school, only on another
continent

Plopped down in the middle of a foreign land, with major difficulties in communication. Aliens landing on Earth? Not exactly...

Being a foreign exchange student is an experience that can be very educational, exciting, and definitely fun. For the first time ever, Merrillville High School and the Otto-Kuhne Schule in Bonn, Germany became official partners in the German American Partnership program. Having all the arrangements made by the two teachers, Ray Hamilton and Wilibert Kornigs, German teachers, students from each school applied and were chosen.

Hamilton and the 13 students finally reached Bonn, Germany on June 9, 1994. During their four week stay, many plans were also made to entertain them. They visited many neighboring cities, saw beautiful castles and churches, went on a boat trip on the Rhein River, and participated in many other ac-

tivities. After their three week stay in Bonn, it was time to say goodbye again, and continue the trip to the southern part of Germany. There they stayed in youth hostels, ate "scrumious" hostel food, and took showers in "clean" facilities. They traveled around to tourist attractions, including the Hofbrauhaus, Neuschwanstein, and Dachau, a former concentration camp. When the four weeks were over, with some disappointed looks on people's faces, it was time to head home for Merrillville on the fourth of July.

Many students kept in touch and plan to keep in contact with each other. Great friendships grew between the two groups, and they will never be forgotten. Future visits to Germany are planned, and the same can be said for the German students wanting to come back here. But, until all of the Gapp founders are reunited, they will remain as "ONE."

◆ **MELISSA MANILOWIC**

◆ One of the things that the students got to do in Germany was go biking along the coast. April Protchen, '96; Ryan Brown, '96; and David Greenberg, '95, all had this opportunity.



photo courtesy of Manilowic

◆ Finally making it there, Megan Wejciechowski, '95, Melissa Manilowic, and Kelly Webster, both '96, board a boat in Bonn, Germany. The three, along with others, were all part of the GAPP program.



Anything goes

◆ What was Germany like, and would you ever go back?



"It was beyond awesome and I would definitely do it again."

-Angie Stapinski, '96

"It was great and I would do it again. I got a chance to learn about the culture."

-Randy Collins, '97



"It was like a dream come true."

-April Pratcher, '96



"It was like an excellent movie, and of course I would do it again."

-Melissa Manojlovic, '96



"I would do it again, and it was a different experience."

-Ryan Brown, '96



◆ Conducted by:

AMY GERUSA & TRACY PARNER



photo courtesy of Manojlovic



photo courtesy of Manojlovic

◆ "What's that?" ask Angie Stapinski '96, and Megan Wojciechowski, '96, as they stand next to the Golden Mine in Bonn, Germany. Over the summer Merrillville sent students to Germany to be part of GAPP.

◆ What could be better than everyone staying together? Many of the participating students didn't want to leave Germany when July came. But before they left, they did get a chance to pose for one group shot.

TAKING *The stage*

After a three year absence,
horror hits Reinhart
Auditorium with the Fall
play, 'The Bad Seed'

Thank you for coming to Loews, sit back and enjoy the show! Sorry, this isn't the movies. Better yet, it's a live performance. November 11th and 12th *The Bad Seed* was performed live by a cast of about 15 people.

Picture this, a murder takes place. The suspect, a mentally disturbed child named Rhoda. One minute she acts innocent and the next evil. Katie Pahl, '95, describes Rhoda as a "devil child." Cara Colon '97 unlike her character, Rhoda, is innocent.

When asked what she thought about the play Beth Hosfeld, '95, said, "It was freaky, the whole thing was so tense." Hosfeld played the role of Rhoda's mother, Christine. Acting seems to come naturally to her, but she felt

it was "really hard to play (Rhoda's mother) because of all the emotions she went through."

The cast of the play worked extremely hard and put in many long hours to make the play their absolute best. Everyday after school the cast practiced until 7 P.M. The closer to opening night the longer the practices got. Jennifer Dainton, '95, says Mark Owen is a "great director."

Owens chose a drama. For the past three years comedy has been the theme. The reason comedy had been chosen is because it seems to go over better than drama with a high school audience. After long hours of practicing though, the drama turned out to be a success.

◆TRACY PARKER

◆Deanna Price, '00, played the role of the mother of the child killed by Rhoda, Mrs. Daigle. All throughout the play, Price had to give the appearance that she was drunk.



Lee photo

◆In the final scene, after Christine killed herself, Rhoda still threatens the lives of the people around her. Cara Colon, '97, played the lead role as Rhoda.



Anything goes

◆ What was the most interesting aspect about the play?



"Since it was my first time acting, it was a different experience."

-Roger Johnson, '96

"Being able to be on stage performing in front of people that actually support us."

-Jennifer Dainton, '95



"I got to kiss Beth Hosfeld!!"

-Matt Cooke, '96



"I got to exploit Cara's psychotic nature."

-Christine Peterson, '96



"I got to cry in front of 500 people."

-Kevin Newtom, '96



◆ Conducted by:

ANDE CRANE & AMY GEFUSKA



Photo photo



Photo photo

◆ In an attempt to make Rebecca feel better since she didn't get the pennmanship medal, Monica, played by Jennifer Dainton, '95, gave her two gifts, first a locket and second a pair of star glasses.

◆ How do you explain that your own daughter likes to murder people? That was the problem that Beth Hosfeld, '95, faced in "The Bad Seed." Hosfeld played Christine, the adopted daughter, and mother to Rhonda.

Anything goes

◆Where's the best place to hang out in Merrillville?



"I hang out at Stardust Bowl with my boyfriend Kevin Lohse."
-Jennifer Wood, '95



"At North Pier."
-Tomishia Brown, '96



"The mall. There's a lot of fine dudes there."
-Yasmine Aponte, '97



"I hang out at Tom Cseke's house because he's a bad dude."
-Alan Kustric, '97



"The movies because there is nothing to do in Merrillville."
-Rachel Sheridan, '98

◆Conducted by:
SARAH BURT & TRACY PARKER



◆During the food drive, co-sponsored by Student Government and National Honor Society, Megan Meloney, '95, and friends stop by McDonald's after delivering the food to St. Peter and Paul's Parish. Hanging around McDonald's was one of the things students did to occupy the time between school and their curfews.

◆"Did I miss something?" L.J. Lux, '95, asks. Erian Flopan, Tom Eddiken, and Kristin Strawhun, all '95. Students often paid visits to local restaurants and clubs in search of something new. Many people complained all year that there is nothing to do in Merrillville when really there are many possibilities.

HANGING

around TOWN

In the endless search for entertainment, many students turn to local hangouts like Dennys and Southlake Mall

Merrillville 46410, more like lame town 46410. It's Friday night and there is absolutely nothing to do. Sure, you plan on attending the football game, but what about afterwards?

We've all been there before. You're all dressed up with no place to go, literally! Many students are very bored with Merrillville; they're bored with Stardust, and the Mall (the usual hangout since seventh grade.) We always seem to end up at a friend's house or our friends at our house. Dennys is also a popular hangout after games or work. It is really the only place students can be sure that any form of teenage life will be found, if we aren't being kicked out for sitting too long without ordering anything or going to the bathroom too many times. We are too old for Celebration Sta-

tion and too young for Rookies. So where in the heck are we supposed to spend our weekend nights? Besides the very few Legion dances, there is no place for us to dance, besides Jubulations, which rumor has it was closed because of the threat of gang violence. What is that? Just because teens dress a certain way, does that make them gang recruiters?

Petitions were sent throughout the town of Merrillville and the town board, requesting a teen dance club, but they were declined.

We are on our own. There must be somewhere? What about Fuddruckers? Could that be the restaurant that will gain our business? Maybe if they don't kick us out first or label us with the infamous tag "The Generation X."

♦ JAMIE McKENNEY

♦ Students aren't the only ones with a social life. Guidance counselor, Maryanne Fallisini and special education teacher, F. exellen Pezold enjoy lunch together at a local fast food restaurant. Unlike students, teachers are allowed to leave for lunch during their prep period.

♦ Spoon Fed. Irene Fulkas, '95, tries to enjoy herself as Kevin Newlen, '96, spoon feels her a piece of pie at Eaker's Square. Almost every restaurant was a target for socializing after football games especially Dennys and the mall.

Fordough photo



Fordough photo

STAYING *in shape*

Getting the 'perfect shape' isn't always easy and can prove to be a challenging task for most of the student body

We're going to pump you up." These words by the puny cousins of Arnold Schwarzenegger became famous from *Saturday Night Live*. But to some students, working out and dieting are no joke. Getting or maintaining the "perfect shape" isn't always easy and can prove to be a task. It takes dedication, as shown by John Foster, '97, who works out four days a week for about two hours. He is already beginning to get into shape, as is Jennifer Beaty, '98. She said about working out, "It's not my whole life." The importance of staying in shape depends on the student. When asked how important it is, Travis Schmidt, '96, replied, "Real important because I'm going out for the basketball team and I want to be in shape." Staying in shape can become an obsession though. Liposuction, anorexia, bulimia, the use of steroids

and diet pills are all extremes for getting that "perfect shape." This may seem ridiculous to some, such as Leah Frink, '95, who said, "I wouldn't starve myself."

A common stereotype might be that girls work out to impress guys. However, this is completely untrue. The common belief is that girls have just as much right working out as guys do. Marianne Maj, '96, says, "Some girls might do it to impress guys, I don't." The male point of view of Mark Jones, '95, "I don't think they do it to pick up guys, they hide out in the Cybex room."

Working out and dieting can make a person feel better about himself. Not only is it a way to get into physical shape, but it also clears the mind and is a source of motivation. So the next time you hear Arnold's cousins, get off the couch, get pumped, and feel better about yourself.

◆ **DEIDRE ELIZONDO**

◆ **Eckby Moravee**, '96, tries his hardest to get fit for a special reason. Moravee spends much time training for his events in the Special Olympics



University photo

◆ During a football workout, Mike Milesell, '95, specs Ryan Parleck, '95, as he tries to powerlifting. Being in a sport was a great way for students to get a good workout.





Forsburgh photo



Tracy photo

Anything goes

◆ How do you get your exercise after school gets out?



"Run cross country and track and work in the winter when I'm not running."

-Matthew Johnston, '98

"To stay in shape I do 200 push-ups a night and chase after girls and money."

-Dante Williams, '95



"Watching TV and getting up to go to the refrigerator is about the extent of my exercise"

-Nicole Hiatt, '95

"Nothing. I walk through the school everyday, that's exercise enough."

-Stephanie Williams, '97



"I ride my bike around the block 100 times a day."

-Chris Schuck, '98

◆ Conducted by:

DEIDRE ELIZONDO & TRACY PARKER

◆ Staying in shape means watching what you eat as Enagel Garcia, '93, finds out. Apples along with other fruits were often substituted as snacks for the more health-conscious students.

◆ Members of the boys and girls track teams conditioned quite often in the fieldhouse to stay in shape for their seasons. Athletic Trainers also helped to keep athletes in shape in their off seasons.

Anything goes

◆ How was th trip to the Magic Kingdom in Florida?



"It was weird , because in Florida there were a lot of people who spoke foreign languages."

-Kathy Bartochowski , '98

"It was fun, and since it's our senior year, it was our big trip."

-Teikesha Williams, '95



"It was a lot of fun; you knew everyone."

-Shaun Peschke, '97



"We did so much stuff. We went everywhere."

-Rhonda Jackson, '95



"I had a great time."

-Mike Coughlin, '97



◆ Conducted by:

SARAH BURT & TRACY PARKER



photo courtesy of Facebook

◆ "Are we having fun yet?" Nancy Packowski, Summer Dichen, Erica Walla, Kelly Walters, all '95, and Kristy Brock, '96, took in the Florida sun on the band's trip to Disney World over Spring Break. Unlike the choir, they didn't get out of school early for the performance.

◆ Angelo Demaree, '95 has a good 'old time as she dances with her new-found friend on the streets of the Magic Kingdom. Demaree was moved up early in the year and completely passed over her junior year to be a senior.

TRACING *their steps*

Strutting their stuff down the streets of the Magic Kingdom, the MHS Band shows Florida all they've got

By the time spring break finally rolled around most students were looking forward to catch up on their sleeping. But as for the Band of Pirates, they were off at eight in the morning on April 9th, already for their trip to visit Disney World. This musical group took a TriState bus for twenty-six hours, which was a grueling experience due to the cramped conditions for students. They did, however, stop at some rest stops, to let students stretch out, and use the restrooms. Finally, after what seemed like an eternity, they arrived Monday in CoCo Beach, and the group stopped in for a quick look at Ron Jon's Surf Shop. Afterwards, they sat down to devour a barbeque at the

beach, and after the meal most students soaked up the sun, and played in the waves. Finally, the gang headed toward the Best Western to freshen up and settle in. That evening, they arrived at Medieval Times, where they enjoyed the atmosphere, while dining by candlelight.

As Tuesday morning rolled around the Orchestra performed on stage at the American Theatre in Epcot. The group continued onward to the Magic Kingdom where the MHS Band of Pirates, Flag Corps, and Pom-Pons performed in the Main Street Parade. All in all, the band students had a successful and exciting time in Florida. (Bus ride not included.)

◆ LAURE

WORTONWICZ

◆ Earl Timmerman directs the MHS orchestra as it took to the stage in Epcot Center.

◆ Trailing the band and pom, members of the flag corps wrap up the long excursion that headed to Florida to be a part of Disney's Magic Music Days.

Forness photo



Jennings photo

ACTING *innocent*

A cast of over 50 help the drama department to bring the stage and hills alive with 'The Sound of Music'

Record breaking...and even pioneering are words that describe the spring musical "The Sound of Music." Director Mark Owens, achieved one of his own personal ambitions when he and an amazing 50 person cast, put on a high school theater production to rival that of the community theater held throughout the summer.

Auditions were held in early February for the production and practices directly followed; ranging anywhere from right after school, to 7:00, to early mornings on the weekends for set construction. Jennifer Dainton, '95, who played Maria Rainer, thought that "Acting gets easier for me the older I get. The experience is priceless." After countless practices and dress rehearsals, finally the show had its debut on April 30.

The musical brought out many firsts for MHS. One of them was such a large cast. "In the beginning, no one thought we could pull it off. After all, up to this point, all musical have had a cast of 24 or less. Now we've doubled it in about one year," commented Jenny Price, '96, student director. Price along with many others were a little unsure of the outcome

even up until a week before opening. But then it almost seemed like "everything just came together," according to Elaine Castro, '98.

Almost everyone knows the tale of the VonTrapp's. After accepting their new governess (Dainton) they learn to live and sing. Her innocence rubs off even on the Captain himself, portrayed by Kevin Newton, '96, as he realizes that he and his family must abandon everything they have to seek a new life without the threat of the Nazi's. Kim Lux, '99, summed it up when she said, "It was music, morals, culture, and a little bit of history all wrapped up into one outstanding musical. I'm glad that I was part of it."

Out of the three night run, both opening night and the night after received standing ovations. And the group got to take the following Monday off as a field trip. The catch though: After performing for the middle and elementary schools, all the sets had to be torn apart and put away. Tough break. Who would want to spend the day in the auditorium with 50 of their friends?

◆PATRICK FARABAUGH

◆ The whole family singing together; Kevin Newton, and Lisa Taylor both, '96, Cara Celen, '97, Jennifer Dainton, '95, and the rest of the family perform at the festival in the second act.



Anything goes

◆ What's the funniest thing you did between scenes at practice?



"It was dark in the back of the set and I was sitting down and someone kicked my head."

-Jessica Anderson, '97

"We were still in character on breaks."

-Stephanie Hogan, '98



"The cardboard statue fell over and made the fountain leak."

-Abby Vivo, '95



"I tripped on a stone bench."

-Jay Cermak, '98



"I ripped a curtain."

-Mandy Sopko, '97



◆ Conducted by:

DEIDRE ELIZONDO & PATRICE FARABAUGH



Fairbough photo



Donna Crane photo

◆ There's nothing like being kissed by the one you love.

Cara Celen, '97, jumps into the air after being kissed by Ralph played by Matt Cecke, '96.

◆ Jennifer Dainton's voice echoes through the halls, or at least the auditorium, on opening night. Dainton had the leading role.

Anything goes

◆ How important is your car to you and why?

"Very, because without it I can't pick up chicks!"
-Jon Shultz, '95



"It is important, because it get's me everywhere!"
-Angie Camacho, '96

"Very important, because without it I would not be able to work."
-Debbie Zellers



"I don't have to depend on anyone to get me places."
Mike Churilla, '95

"Yeah, it helps me get to places."
Brett Fedak, '95.



◆ Conducted by:
SARAH BUET & TRACY PARKER



◆ Rows and rows of cars line the student parking lots, all with little green parking tags for the rearview mirrors. If caught without it, orange stickers were placed on the windshield of the offender's car.

◆ Before leaving school, Missy Steller searches her trunk for various things. Steller and other drivers were often in a hurry to avoid the awful traffic jams right around 3:00, so they wouldn't get stuck behind the bus.

DRIVING *to mhs*

Showing off the car you drive
could be something to look
forward to or even feel
embarrassed by



◆Facing the consequences for being late to school, Sam and Emily Farnett, '95 and '97, both get stuck parking in the back of the student parking lot.



Ask any student at Merrillville High School what their most prized possession is and what will they tell you? Will it be their money, their brain, or their car? Most of the students agree it would have to be their ride, their wheels, what else but their car!

For most students it's their only transportation, a better alternative than riding the cheese wagon to school. Yet, for other students it is their baby, their hobby, cars are what they live for.

A majority of the students at MHS own reasonable cars since high prices these days are a little hard to get around, but many still have a certain pride for them.

Joe Barker, '96, whose car is a 1987 Ford Escort commented, "It's the only thing I could afford and it sucks, but it's got a sweet set of headlights."

Many students who do not have the advantage of owning a newer car, find other things to like about them.

"I like the windshield wipers because they work good,"

said Gary VanVolkenburg, '95, who owns a 1989 Honda Accord.

Rich Stazinski, '95, the proud owner of a 1980 Pontiac Bonneville commented, "I like the painted on bumper, and my car can run over rocks."

Other students at MHS who have had accidents, hold dear memories of their car. These students are forced to seek out a ride to school everyday or suffer the alternative. . . . riding the bus to school.

Maryann Vale, '95, who was in a tragic accident involving the death of her car, stated, "I'm so proud of the way my car accentuates the junkyard."

Whether it's a new '94 Camaro or a '65 Mustang, many students get to ride to school in style.

Jenny Gabriel, '96, described her 1994 Mustang, "It's red, it's fast, and it's mine."

Old or new, red or blue, the students at MHS find various ways of getting around.

◆AMANDA RICHARDSON

SINGING *down under*

Clear water, clean air and the sweet smell of the tropical flowers on the island: The MHS choir in the Bahamas!!

Palm trees, warm white sand, and cold clear water. Definitely not Merrillville. The choir visited a paradise called the Bahamas over spring break. They left on Wednesday, April 5 for the five day vacation.

They then spent the next twenty-seven hours on a bus watching movies ranging from *Speed* to *The Lion King*. Every couple of hours they stopped at the local fast food joints to grab a bite to eat and stretch. After that long bus ride and about a million truck stops, the choir finally arrived at Port Canaveral. But before boarding *The Big Red Boat* the group stopped at Ron Jon's Surf Shop to do some last minute beach bargaining. Once on board the boat, they joined with the other choirs and bands from across the U.S. to sing "Anchors Away."

The Captain's Cocktail Party was a formal dinner at which the visitors could meet the captain. After dinner many people relaxed by taking a quiet walk around the top deck or dancing to the hot reggae bands.

That night the choirs performed and MHS received second place. On Saturday, they had breakfast on the boat by the pool and then ventured out to the beautiful island of Port Lucia. Parasailing and swimming with the dolphins were the two most popular excursions for students to do. Later at dinner each said their final goodbyes to a few of their favorite waiters and finished the night with a last rush of the cool tropical breeze.

On April 10 the choir packed up, went through Customs and rushed to Universal Studios to perform for the last time on the trip. Then it was back to the bus for another 27 hour ride, truckstops and movies were what kept the anxious students awake the whole ride home, not to mention the memories and uncomfortable seats. Once back in Indiana, they realized how beautiful the tropical weather was, and they slowly stepped off the bus into the cold and rain. Suddenly they realized that it was definitely not the Bahamas.

◆ Sarah Burt &
Jamie McKenney

◆ Feeling right at home, Kelly Thorne, '06, takes a few minutes to join in with the natives right after getting off the boat in the Bahamas. Most choir members couldn't get over how clear the water was when compared to the Florida beaches.



Anything goes

◆ What was the most exciting thing about the cruise?



"The parties on the boat."
Harriette Kelly, '96.



"I enjoyed parasailing the most."
Emily Barnett, '97.



"Parasailing and hanging out with my friends."
Jason Dzunda, '96.



"Being on the cruise was the best part."
Lucinda Paz, '95.



"The food!"
Larry Murphy, '95.

◆ Conducted by:

TRACY PARKER & DEIDRE ELIZONDO



Fordnough photo

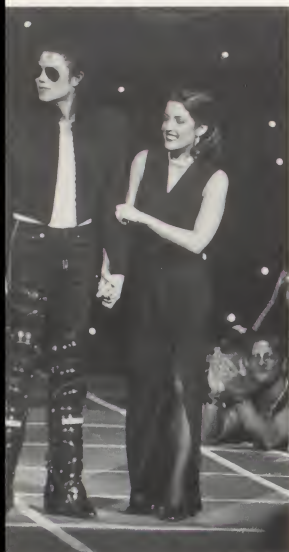


Fordnough photo

◆ "I've got nothing,"...except a great voice. Sarah Frink, '97, performs on the Big Red Boat with the rest of the Girls Show Choir. They received a good rating from the judges.

◆ The straw shops appealed to Megan Dixon, '96, as she tried to bargain down the prices with the shopkeeper. There were people there trying to sell everything from beads, to books, to t-shirts.

PROVEN POSSIBLE



◆ It was a match made in tabloid heaven: The child of one of the two biggest stars in rock history married the other biggest star in rock history.

Lisa Marie Presley, Elvis's only child, got hitched to the reclusive Michael Jackson. After weeks of dodging photographers outside Jackson's Trump Tower apartment in New York City, the couple made a very public coming out: They opened the MTV Music Video Awards ceremony, broadcast live from the Radio City Music Hall.

After an announcer intoned, "Please welcome Mr. and Mrs. Michael Jackson," the newlyweds strolled out onto stage. The couple held hands during their brief appearance and exchanged a long kiss as the audience cheered wildly.

"I'm very happy to be here," Jackson said. "And just think, nobody thought this would last."

No Price is Right

BARKER CHARGED WITH SEXUAL HARASSMENT BY ONE OF HIS ILLUSTRIOUS BEAUTIES.

Bob Barker and his famous "beauties" were in the spotlight once more, but this time it was one "beauty" in particular, Dian Parkinson, who was a model on *The Price Is Right* for 18 years, filed charges of sexual harassment against host, Bob Barker. "I never thought it would happen to me. I'm 70 years-old. The sexual revolution in my life came when I was out of ammunition," commented Barker.

Without any doubt, there was a physical relationship between the two coworkers, but there was some speculation about Parkinson getting involved for the sake of her job. The only reason Parkinson had sex with Barker was because there was the scare of losing a yearly salary of \$120,000. Barker commented on that note also, "She is not telling the truth. I think it's an injustice to the women who really are suffering when a woman files a cynical lawsuit for personal gain."

Although Parkinson would not comment on the accusation, some of the other coworkers were aware of their fling. "If anyone was doing the harassing on that set, it was Dian," commented Janice Pennington, a fellow *Price* model.



◆ It was a rainy month in Georgia, where two weeks of record flooding in July killed 31 people, destroyed hundreds of bridges and roads, and even uprooted caskets from cemeteries. Tropical storm Albert dumped nearly two feet of rain, flooding the Flint and Ocmulgee Rivers in the central and southwestern sections of the state.

◆ Tens of thousands of firefighters fought a summer-long battle against scores of fires that burned more than three million acres of woodlands across the parched Western states.

Residents of mountain homes near Boise were reeled by a single fire that consumed 27,000 acres.





◆ In July the Merrillville High School Student Government sent four of its executive officers to Ball State University for the Student Leadership Workshops, better known as SLL. Patrick Farabaugh, '95, along with Judy Jennings, Marc Helm, both '96, and Jenny Pozniak, '97 all were in attendance. Eric Pozniak, Helm, and Jennings all study a map of the campus.



◆ It rained. Thousands crashed the gates. People with tickets couldn't get in or had to wait for hours. Portable toilets overflowed. Food occasionally ran short. Drugs were everywhere.

Promoters set up distant parking lots and shuttle buses for the 200,000 people who paid \$135 each for tickets — advance sale only. But about 350,000 people showed up. Many ticket holders couldn't find a parking space, and some walked up to 12 miles to get to the concert. A few gave up and went home.

On stage, Bob Dylan, who did not play in 1969, sang "Just Like a Woman." Joe Cocker wailed "With a Little Help from My Friends," just like 25 years ago. Melissa Etheridge impersonated Janis Joplin, a late veteran of Woodstock I, in "Piece of My Heart."

Who Came to WOODSTOCK

Joe Cocker
Aerosmith
Peter Gabriel
the cranberries
Primus

Joe MacDonald
Gil Scott-Heron
U2

Pearl Jam
Guns N' Roses
R.E.M.

Bob Dylan
Collective Soul
Candlebox

Rollins Band
Green Day
Salt 'N' Pepa

Cypress Hill
Metallica

Red Hot Chili Peppers

The Band

Crosby, Stills, & Nash

Blind Melon

Spin Doctors

Hassan Hakmoun

Jackyl

Del Amitri

Sheryl Crow

Nine Inch Nails

Porno for Pyros

Blues Traveler

Violent Femmes

Deee-Lite

Melissa Etheridge

Sisters of Glory

Arrested Development

Neville Brothers

◆ With the start of the '94-'95 school year, the incoming freshmen were not the only ones who experienced change. The Merrillville Community School Corporation also experienced a change. To a new superintendent. Dr. Anthony Lux became the new superintendent after Dr. Robert Schreiner retired. Dr. Lux has many plans for the students of Merrillville.

Two future goals Dr. Lux has are to focus on student learning so that students may achieve more, and to see students enjoy going to school.

Dr. Lux has two children in the Merrillville School Corporation, and he uses that advantage to help him look at the students' viewpoint.

Merrillville schools began 1994 with a fresh start and also with many new ideas and goals that Lux has already initiated.



PROVEN POSSIBLE

TV of THE TIMES

**Frasier
Seinfeld
Roseanne**

Home Improvement

Me and the Boys

All-American Girl

Something Wilder

Friends

Hanging with Mr.

Cooper

ER

Party of Five

Daddy's Girls

Grace Under Fire

Beverly Hills 90210

Melrose Place

Models Inc

Mad About You

Saved by the Bell

Full House

My So-called Life

Murphy Brown

The Simpsons

On Our Own

Chicago Hope

Blossom

Martin

NYPD Blue

Northern Exposure

Bay Watch

Beverly Hills 90210

◆ Civil war continued to rack Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1994, despite the efforts of a United Nations peacekeeping force.

The war was notorious for "ethnic cleansing"—the successful Serbian campaign to drive Muslims from northern and eastern Bosnia. Bosnian Serbs had to contend with NATO air strikes. Also, United Nations sanctions and diplomacy appeared to put some distance between the Bosnian Serbs, who rejected an international peace plan and their allies in Serbian Yugoslavia.

In October, in recognition of increased cooperation from Erdgrade, the UN lifted some of the sanctions imposed on Yugoslavia. But US Defense Secretary William Perry asserted that the Bosnian Serbs were still getting war supplies from their fellows across the border.

◆ A deaf woman from Alabama became the first contestant with a disability to win the Miss America Pageant.

The 25th Miss America was 21-year-old

Feather Whitestone.

Her slogan in the competition was "Youth Motivation: Anything is Possible." She was proud enough, having lost most of her hearing after a reaction to a shot when she was 18 months old.

Whitestone became Miss America 1995 in part through her talent routine, a two-and-a-half minute ballet performed to music that she couldn't hear. Instead, she counted the beats in her head and synchronized her dance moves to reflect changes in pitch. At a news conference after her victory she stated, "Look at us, we're doing just fine."



◆ Brazil's unsung back line, hobbled by injuries, came through in the World Cup when offensive stars Romario and Bebeto couldn't put the ball in the net. "Defense won this game," Aldair, one of the new heroes, said after the match. Brazil's offense got all the attention beforehand, but its defense wound up stopping Italy.



Cinema Savior

ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
SPONSORS ITS SECOND BENEFIT
FOR RYAN WHITE FOUNDATION.

On Saturday, October 29, 1994 the Tiny Fools, a group of local actors, put on two performances of the Rocky Horror Picture Show at Crossroads Cinema in Merrillville. Why? To raise money for the Ryan White Foundation, an Indianapolis-based charity, through an AIDS benefit. It is an annual benefit that has been running for two years. The cast of 20 people, varying in age from 16-23, raised over \$2000. Most of the money came from the 750 tickets sold but was helped with the sale of survival kits, programs, t-shirts, and buttons. The cast also sold advertisements for the program and raffled off donated prizes.

The cast, dressed up in costumes similar to those of the characters on screen, perform all the dialogue, songs and actions along with the characters on the screen every Saturday at midnight. For all of the return fans and even those who have never seen the show before, the annual AIDS benefit is greatly anticipated.

The show was a success in the eyes of the cast and of the several MHS students who went to the shows. One Merrillville student, Susan Frenchik, '95, enjoyed the show and its purpose so much that she auditioned for the cast and is now a Tiny Fool.

◆ Scott Amedure, a homosexual, felt that he needed to confess his feelings for the homophobic, Jonathan Schmitz after secretly admiring him for some time. He did this live on the Jenny Jones Show and caught Schmitz by surprise.

After the show, Amedure left Schmitz a sexually provocative note, and Schmitz reacted violently. He shot Amedure for expressing his feelings publicly. All this because of one man's need to confess his love in front of a live audience.

◆ The civil war in Rwanda began with a plane crash that killed the president. A rebel group composed mainly of Tutsis had been trying to unseat the president, who was Hutu.

The violence was awful, but it was nothing new. The Hutus slaughtered thousands of Tutsis in uprisings in 1959 and early 1960s.

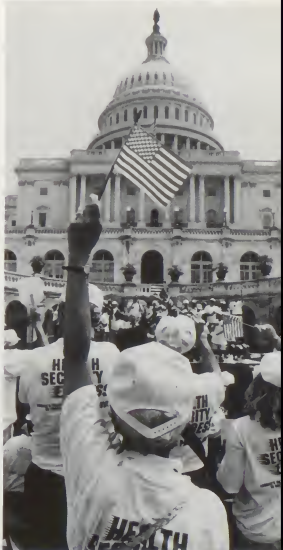


◆ If the United States truly had a health care crisis in 1994-95 you couldn't have proved it by Congress. Despite the exhortations of President Clinton and the First Lady, the year ended without significant health insurance reform.

In 1993 the president appointed his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, to head a health care task force. After extensive hearings and much research, the group produced a proposal that became famous — or infamous — for its complexity.

Meanwhile, sentiment for change seemed to be limited to the minority of Americans who lacked health insurance or feared losing it. In the absence of a public outcry, there was insufficient support in Congress for the Clinton bill, which called for universal coverage. But the President had promised to veto anything less.

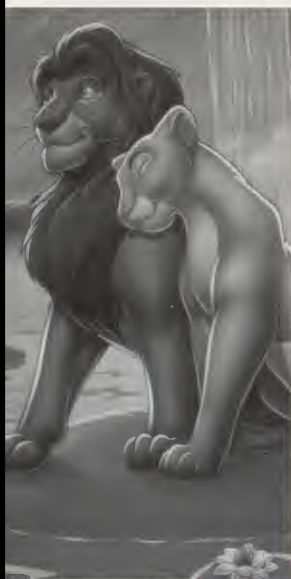
Mrs. Clinton took some of the blame for the failure. She didn't realize that the complexity of the plan would turn people off.



PROVEN POSSIBLE

◆ In the constant battle over what shows kids will watch the *Pewee Rangers* came out on top over *Fursey* and *The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*. The show features kung-fu fighting and rebels. The six heres lit up Fox television and the eyes of many youngsters across the country all year long.

◆ For the first time ever, the high school and junior high school pom pom squads of Indiana have been recognized as an active sport through the formation of the Indiana High School Dance Team Association (IHSDTA). Regional competition was held at Merrillville. On January 21, after many hours of practice, the squad placed 5th in the pom division and 3rd in the dance division. They then advanced to the state competition on January 28, where they placed 10th in pom and 9th in dance.



◆ Fearing into theaters everywhere in summer of '94, Disney's 31st animated feature, *The Lion King*, stole the hearts of young America, along with their pocketbooks. Taking in the lion's share of the profits, Simba and crew had already grossed over \$44 million after only being out for two weeks.

The story was simple. Simba was threatened when his father was killed by a stampede of wildebeests. I had to believe that he was the cause of Simba's death by his Uncle Scar, the little lion cub ran off in hopes of never being seen again. In the meantime, his journey led him smack dab in the middle of a rainforest where he met, and was befriended by, a wise-cracking meerkat, Timon, and a worthy who eyes are bigger than his stomach, Pumbaa.

Finally he decided to return to the Pride Lands and seek out his true heritage.

Disney animators spent months in Africa and at zoos to get the feel for what they would be making.

After studying every inch of almost every animal imaginable, the outcome was well worth the time... to him, and no pun intended.

SOS Flight 4184

CRASH IN NORTHWESTERN INDIANA
KILLS 68 PEOPLE AND BONDS
LOCAL COMMUNITY.

Newton County, Indiana experienced tragedy on October 31, 1994. Officials believe that the crash of American Eagle Flight 4184 was the worst in the state's history. All of the 68 passengers and crew on board died when the plane hit the ground. One victim, Elizabeth Guba, a 37 year-old resident of Indianapolis, was a graduate of Merrillville High School in 1975. She boarded the plane in Indianapolis, heading for Chicago, due to her job regarding clinical pharmacy.

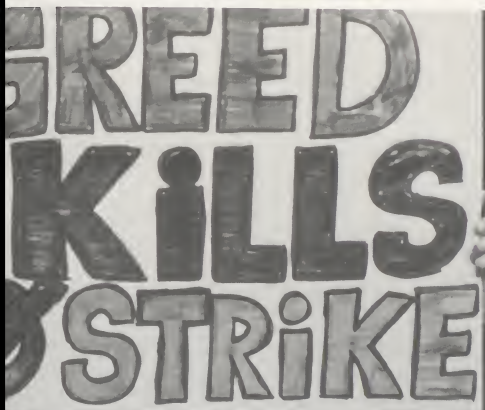
Numerous efforts were made by rescue workers from all over Northwest Indiana to help separate the ruins and collect the remains of the casualties.

On Saturday, November 11, 1994, a memorial service was held for the victims in the main gym at the high school. Approximately 300 people assembled for the service. It was a simple, gracious ceremony which lasted about 30 minutes.

Reverend David H. Gosnell of St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church opened the service by saying, "We gather as strangers bonded together by tragedy...that has left us speechless and heartbroken."



◆ March 25th was an exciting, yet disappointing day for the Merrillville Pirate basketball team and fans. Although it was a controversial one point loss for the Pies in the game against Een Davis, co-captain, T.J. Lux, '95 was named recipient of the Arthur L. Fessler Mental Attitude Award. Each year one senior player is chosen by the IH SAA based on positive mental attitude, scholarship, leadership, and athletic ability. Lux stated for the Merrillville Herald, "It's a tremendous honor to win. Some great people have won this award, and I'm just honored to be a part of that list now." T.J. attributes a great deal of his success to his parents. He admires many people, but he feels that being able to pattern his life after his father's would be a life of success.



◆ On the 34th day of the major league players strike, the team owners canceled the rest of the 1994 season, including the playoffs and the World Series.

"This is a sad day," said acting commissioner Bud Selig in a fax distributed to the news media.

He got no argument. Nel from Long Gwyn of the San Diego Padres, who lost his chance to bat .400. Nel from Matt Williams of the San Francisco Giants, who lost his shot at Roger Maris' home run record.

And certainly not from fans, who suffered through a fall without a World Series for the first time since 1904.

The season floundered on the owners' insistence on capping player salaries. The players refusing to go along, went on strike, and in a little more than a month the season was history.

Head of THE CLASS

Jamie Aubin
Erin Bacich
Jaime Bartochowski
Chennetta Blacknell
Tom Bolden
Angela Corea
Robert Daumer
Albert Davila
Angela Demaree
Lisa Dimitroff
Jennifer Duplaga
Deidre Elizondo
Leeanne Forbes
Alex Galic
Cynthia Garcia
Cheryl Gonzalez
Christine Hodgetts
Brian Hogan
Beth Hostfeld
Irene Halkias
Caryn Krysa
Matt Lesniak
T.J. Lux
Richard Lyons
Lori Modglin
Megan Moloney
Mandy Olejnik
Kirstin Olson
Nancy Packowski
Jon Rowe
Kristen Sommers
Jennifer Spitz
Kristin Strawnun
Carrie Sullivan
Tanjaree Turner
Michelle Verhik
Michael Wisniewski
Julia Zolondz



◆ Nothing may ever explain for sure why the Maryland trucker, Frank Corder, stole a small plane near Baltimore and crashed it into the White House lawn shortly before 2 a.m. on September 15, 1994.

Nether President Clinton nor his wife and daughter were home when Corder, flying at treetop level, smashed into a magnolia tree on the South Lawn.

PROVEN POSSIBLE



◆David and Susan Smith arrive at the Union County Sheriff's office in Union, South Carolina October 27, 1994. The Smith's children were said to have been kidnapped Tuesday, October 25, after a carjacker took Mrs. Smith's car at gunpoint and told her to get out, but would not allow her to remove her two children, Alexander, fourteen months-old, and Michael, three years.

She told the public her story, and they felt for her.

"I don't think any parent could love their children more than I do, and I would never even think about doing anything that would harm them," claimed Smith.

A composite sketch was made by police and the hunt began, only for Smith to break down days later and admit to authorities that she was the person guilty of killing the two boys.

Smith left her children in the car, as it was slowly immersed with the water.

The state of South Carolina may seek the death penalty when she stands trial.



◆On April 12, 1995 one more boys basketball star signed with a Division I school. Jee Stavitzke, '95, has plans to attend Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas. By setting the three point record in the final four, Stavitzke's dream of earning a scholarship came true.

◆Ecological father, Ctakar Kuchner, carries his son, Baby Richard, into a waiting van outside the Dices' Schaumburg house on Sunday, April 30, 1995. In January, the Illinois Supreme Court ruled that custody of Richard should be given to Kuchner, rather than the boy's adoptive parents, known in court proceedings as John and Jane Dice.

Terror in Oklahoma

AMERICAN'S CAUGHT OFF-GUARD
WHEN OKLAHOMA'S FEDERAL
BUILDING IS BOMBED.

It was a fairy tale gone bad. Who would have ever believed that a terrorist would strike right at the heart of America? Who would have ever believed that one truck could carry over a half-ton of explosives? Well, if you were standing anywhere near the federal building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on the afternoon of April 19, you'd believe it. In what has been called "the worst terrorist attack ever on US soil," a mere three people could be held responsible for the deaths of hundreds. The most tragic was the sight of the firefighter, who after giving it his everything, was seen carrying out a small child bleeding from the head, who had been killed by the blast.

"We will find the people who did this," rang out President Clinton's voice to an America with no place to turn. After all, if something like this could happen in the heartland, where else is at risk?

Only days after the bombing, a service was held for all the victims. Broadcast nationwide, it offered comfort to those who needed it most: the families involved.

Out of the three suspects, two were arrested, the most widely known became Timothy McVeigh, who now must await the trial of his life for all the lives he took.





◆ Bruce Woods, English teacher and Danielle Ramirez, 35, organized a convocation for Cinco de Mayo, the Mexican Independence Day. Many Hispanic students took part in this convocation by either dancing, singing, or speaking.

The highlight was when the East Chicago Mariachi band performed for the crowd.



◆ Chicago Bulls guard Michael Jordan shook over Indiana Pacers guard Reggie Miller during the third quarter in Indianapolis Sunday, March 19, 1995. The Pacers defeated the Bulls in overtime 103-96. A huge controversy was stirred up by Jordan's return, especially in his first game. Many people thought that MJ didn't even know how to put his shorts on when he came onto the court with the word champion stitched onto the back of his shorts. Come to find out, it was just a mistake made by the manufacturer.

That wasn't all the controversy Jordan aroused though. Later when he tried to change his number back to 23, the NBA slapped Michael with a huge fine. He continued to play with #23 in the play-offs, until their season ended against the Magic.



◆ On January 26, 1995 the whole student body of Merrillville High School was motivated. This motivational speaker has spoken at over fifteen hundred schools across North America. When you think of a speaker you think of boring, but Mark "Shake-a-lake" Scharenbroich was not even close to being that. From St. Cloud, Minnesota, Scharenbroich came to give a speech on motivation and life. He started out by saying "I am not here to motivate you, if you can't motivate yourself no one else can." Although his speech was about motivation, it had a touch of humor added in on the side. By the end he had talked about life from the beginning to end. It was a talk meant to motivate Merrillville, but it also made ME'S laugh and think about life all of the same time.

People's Most INTRIGUING

Gerry Adams
Andre Agassi
Tim Allen
Aldrich Ames
Nadja Auermann
Jim Carrey
Vinton Cerf
Bill Clinton
Princess Diana
Shannon Faulkner
Michael Fay
Newt Gingrich
Tonya Harding
Whitney Houston
Michael Jordan
Jeffrey Katzenberg
Ricki Lake
Heather Locklear
Power Rangers
Pope John Paul II
Liz Phair
James Redfield
O.J. Simpson
John Travolta
Christine Todd
Whitman
Vince Gill
Meat Loaf
Snoop Doggy Dogg
Michael Zaslow
Anna Paquin
Lance Ito

PROVEN POSSIBLE

◆ A string of Pacific storms led to the deaths of at least 11 people and caused more than \$300 million in flood damage across the state of California in January 1995.



Sounds of THE TIMES

Veruca Salt
Plastikman
Digable Planets
Pearl Jam
R.E.M.
Testament
Brutal Truth
Craig Mack
Redman
Grid
Bush
Portishead
Liz Phair
Slayer
Keith Murray
Roots
Brand Nubial
Air Liquide
Catherine
Dead Can Dance
Celina Dion
N-Tyce
Primus
Green Day
The Offspring
Snoop Doggy Dog
Nine Inch Nails
U2
Soundgarden
Stone Temple Pilots
Aerosmith
John Mellencamp
Easy E

◆ A woman subway passenger with an oxygen mask is rushed into St. Luke Hospital in Tokyo Monday morning, March 20, 1995. Five people died and more than 550 were hospitalized after they fell ill from toxic fumes filled in the metropolitan subway systems during busy morning rush hours.

Following on the heels of the Kobe Earthquake, cult leader, Shoko Asahara, lead Japan into yet another devastation tragedy. After what could have only been a painstakingly complex plan devised by a warped group, nerve gas was pumped into the subways in Tokyo. The nerve gas, sarin, was put in five of the subway cars.

This act was brought on by the Aum Shinrikyo cult, lead by Asahara. The cult actually means Aum Supreme Truth.

◆ Actor Tom Hanks shows off his award for "Favorite Actor in a Dramatic Motion Picture," for his work in "Forrest Gump," during the 71st annual People's Choice Awards. Later at the Oscars, Hanks also received "Best Actor," for the second year in a row, making him the second person to receive this in the history of the awards. The words, "life is like a box of chocolates" and "stupid is as stupid does," will be remembered by generation after generation. *Forrest Gump* now holds the record for the non-science-fiction film which grossed the highest amount of money in history. Steve Tisch, producer of *Gump*, commented on Hanks and his role in the movie, "I've been involved in *Gump* for nine years, and I can't now think of any other actor who should've played *Forrest Gump* other than Tom.



In 5, 4, 3, 2, 1....

PIRATE NEWS NETWORK GOES PUBLIC ACCESS WITH HALF-HOUR NEWS BROADCAST

It's 5:30 in the afternoon. You're just sitting down after a long week's worth of work. What channel is your TV on? If it was tuned in to Cable Access 16, you'd be just in time to catch another edition of the *PNN Week-end Report*.

Produced every week by Steve DeVillez and Jean Stanford's broadcast journalism class, the show is comprised of several segments. From 'This Week in History,' to 'In the Lockerroom with T.J. Lux,' it offers a wide variety of events showcasing different areas of the school corporation both high school and elementary.

Don't be fooled. Everything you're seeing is a students' work. From the anchors to the people behind the switcher, students are running the show. Kelli Moore, '96, thought that, "It's a great way to get involved with every aspect of journalism. From on the street reporting, to sitting at the editing bay for hours, the experience you can get from this is invaluable."

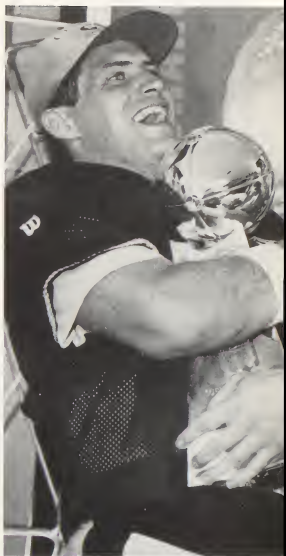
◆The San Francisco 49ers scored early and often on January 29 to defeat the San Diego Chargers 49-26 in a Super Bowl that quickly turned into the rout the experts had predicted.

For 49ers quarterback, Steve Young, the victory not only put his name in the record book but allowed him to escape the ghost of his predecessor, Super Bowl hero Joe Montana.

Young unanimously named the game's most valuable player, passed for 325 yards without an interception and ran for 49.

His six touchdown passes broke the Super Bowl record of five. Montana set that record five years ago.

"Whatever critics he may have had, he proved tonight that he's one of the greatest quarterbacks of all time," 49ers coach George Seifert said of Young. The San Diego Chargers and the San Francisco 49ers, both of the same state, came together for Super Bowl XXIX. The 49ers were lead by players such as Jerry Rice, Kenny Eberlin, Richard Dent, and Ricky Waters.



◆Japan's nightmare of a disastrous urban earthquake came true on January 17, 1995 when a powerful quake tore through several raging fires and killing more than 5,000 people.

The country had been rattled by a series of strong quakes since late December, when the quake with a magnitude of 7.5 jolted northern Japan.

◆On Friday, February 3, 1995, Chicago Stadium was demolished by the wrecking ball. It was the home of the professional basketball team, the Chicago Bulls, and the hockey team, Chicago Blackhawks. The Chicago Bulls, lead by all-star, Michael Jordan, were three time NBA champions in the stadium.

The new stadium, the United Center, stands across the street from where Chicago Stadium was located.

PROVEN POSSIBLE

◆ If rock 'n' roll is here to stay, 1994 made it clear that Aerosmith is too. The band of bad boys from Easton proved that heavy metal need not rust, taking three awards at the 11th annual MTV Music Video Awards ceremony at Radio City Music Hall in New York City.

Aerosmith, pop icons in three decades, collected three prizes for their "Cryin'" video—Best Group Video, Video of the Year and Viewers' Choice Award.

◆ Newt Gingrich wanted to be speaker of the House years before he managed to win a House seat, and he long ago laid plans for the Republican takeover most of his colleagues considered an impossible dream.

This is the Georgia congressman's season of triumph. He is celebrating it in typical contradictory fashion—high-minded one moment, flamboyant the next. He has said himself he needs to tone down his style, but he hasn't yet taken his own advice.



◆ They headed north on almost anything that would float, including crafts made of the flimsiest materials: oil drums, inner tubes, wooden planks.

They were Cuba's boat people—tens of thousands of people desperate to come to the United States to escape the poverty and hunger of their increasingly isolated island Communist nation.

Many did not make it because of storms, sinkings or the US Coast Guard, which intercepted more than 1,000 of the crafts in one day in early September.

But the flood of migrants receded shortly thereafter. Reversing a 28-year-old policy of not granting Cubans asylum, the United States agreed to admit at least 20,000 a year.

In return, Cuban leader Fidel Castro promised to halt the flight of boat people. Police gave rafters a few days to get their crafts off Havana's beaches and make sure no new ones were drawn up.



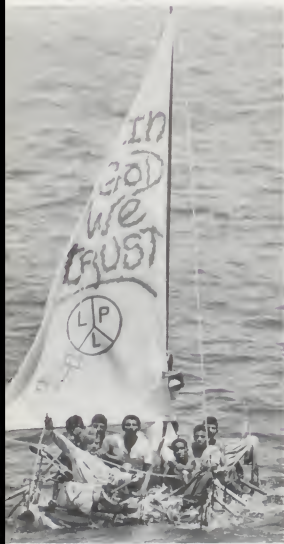
Riddle Me This...

A NEW STAR, DIRECTOR, AND VILLAINS BRING THE THIRD BATMAN TO VIVID LIFE.

The Batman films are known for their stellar cast, but nothing could top the group comprised in the third chapter, *Batman Forever*. After losing the star of the first two, Michael Keaton, and director, Tim Burton, people thought that Gotham City would never be the same. But their replacements really did the job quite well.

Val Kilmer stepped up from his roles in *The Doors* and *Tombstone* to be the new Caped Crusader, as did Joel Schumacher to fill Burton's shoes. Also in 'Forever,' *Mad Loves'* Chris O'Donnell makes his first appearance as the Boy Wonder, Robin.

But if there ever was a show stealer, no one could beat out Jim Carrey's Riddler and Tommy Lee Jones' Two Face. Coming hot off the heels of Catwoman, played by Michelle Pfeiffer, and the Penguin, as portrayed by Danny DeVito, this gruesome twosome walked away with all the attention on Claw Island, and in theatres for that matter.





◆ O.J. Simpson always lived life on camera, first as a football star, then as a sportscaster, commercial pitchman and actor. But nothing could have prepared him, or his fans, for the role he would play in 1995.

Simpson was suspected in the brutal slaying murder of his ex-wife Nicole and her friend, Ronald Goldman.

As a television audience watched — virtually all network programming was preempted — Simpson's white Bronco moved hypnotically along the fabled freeways. Police cars followed in formation, and crowds formed along overpasses.

The most famous murder case in American history continued on throughout the entire year with no end in sight for Simpson, Judge Lance Ito, and the jurors who've been dropping like flies.



◆ Who could have ever imagined that a little spark between two or three students could ignite a fire that would enrage almost an entire school?

Tensions between African-Americans and a white student seemingly started a gradual building of frustration that eventually led to a walkout on March 8. Out of the 250 people thought to participate in the pretest, only around 60 actually went through with it and "That figure could be a lower one once total attendance figures are checked," commented Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz, principal.

"Most of the students walked out because they wanted to be on TV," commented Jeff Fiendricks, '96. "This doesn't make it look very good for a school to have all these rumors. Merrillville is a fine school," he added.

After all the commotion began to die down, the few that actually started the excitement went live on the VHS system to make a public apology to all of MHS. That along with numerous meetings held by Rapacz seemed to put out the flames and begin to mend wounds made only days earlier.

Fat on the heels of that, a guest commentary was run in *The Mirror* by art teacher Maryann Foster. In an attempt to lighten the strain on the school from the earlier events, Foster inadvertently made things worse. On the PA system, she apologized for any offenses she might have made and told everyone how she now understands the pain brought on by prejudice.

People we will REMEMBER

Cab Calloway
John Candy
James Clavell
Dorothy Collins
William Conrad
Joseph Cotten
"Papa" John Creach
Ralph Ellison
Danny Gatto
William Graf
Eugene Ionesco
Raul Julia
Irving B. Kahn
Jack "King" Kirby
Burt Lancaster
Walter Lantz
Irving "Swiftly" Lazar
Alex Macendrick
Henery Mancini
Giulietta Masina
Carmen McRae
Melina Mercouri
Cameron Mitchell
Anita Morris
Mildred Natwick
Harriet Nelson
Harry Nilsson
Richard Nixon
Michael O'Donoghue
Jaqueline Kennedy Onassis
Rose Kennedy
George Peppard
Dennis Potter
Dack Rambo
Martha Raye
Fernando Rey
Red Rooney
Cesar Romero
Wilma Rudolph
Dick Sargent
Telly Savalas
Richard Scarry
Dinah Shore
Fred "Sonic" Smith
Julie Styne
Jessica Tandy
Danitra Vance
Frank Wells
Pedro Zamora

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE **ENDLESS**

A C A D E M I C S

Perhaps something far more impressive than the stats from the football or basketball teams would be the lengths that MHS goes to retain its standard of academic excellence. It is those student who will prove to the world that **THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS.**

◆ Student Greeter, Eric Randolph, '95, works on completing some last minute assignments while waiting for people to enter MHS. Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz thought of the greeters as a way to formalize the high school environment.

◆ Eetsy Parrish and Kathy Padberg, both '98, practice the "Timberline March" for the Concert Band's upcoming concert.



Fordough photo



L.L. after photo



◆ Desoun Williams, Jason Rubine, and Eillie Pennington, all '97, try to work on their lab in Jack Neuliep's earth science class.



◆ Violet Schmuck, math teacher, tries her best to get students involved in their work. Schmuck often had students up at the board showing their work before the class.

Crisis photo

STUDENTS ENDLESSLY SEARCHING FOR

Excellence

MHS's "THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE," DEFINITELY STRONG AND MEANINGFUL words. Not only are they powerful, but it is also the motto of Merrillville Community School Corporation. "The Pursuit of Excellence" basically means that Merrillville is constantly working and perfecting, seeking to become better. According to principal, Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz, the motto means that "we are constantly trying our best."

"We don't want to settle for mediocrity or what

everyone else may be doing," comments Rapacz. It means that even if we're recognized as being good or even very good, we're going to 'strive' to do better." With the newly finished MHS facility, it is very easy to try and accomplish this feat. Assistant principal, Tom Herbert adds, "People are constantly trying

to move or get their children involved in the Merrillville School System, not only because of the name, but because we strive for excellence here, and that is the best place for an education."

Whether the excellence exists in organizations, athletics, or academics, one sure thing is that MHS is always in pursuit of something greater. "There is no finish line with respect to our motto," concludes Rapacz.

◆KIMBERLY ANDERSON



◆During the State Board of Education open forum, Erik Vambrink, '95, speaks with Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz about how he feels about the possibility of lengthening the school year. Merrillville hosted the event in the Reinhardt Auditorium.



◆Preparing to enter a file for Janet Firsirot, '90, Fel Moore, social studies teacher, checks the commands on the IBM computers.



Fordough photo

ABOUT THE MOTTO

"We don't want to settle for mediocrity or what everyone else may be doing."

-Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz

◆Singing away, Jill Matusk, '98, prepares for the choir's 'Enchil Concert. The Choir Ecocsters help to put on the event.



Fordough photo



◆Taking a glance at Dymesta Jones' work, French teacher, Madeline Wilson checks to see how accurate the answers are. All foreign language labs had headsets to improve student learning by allowing hands-on experience.

◆Being interviewed by publications student Laurie Moness, '95, Dr. Tony Lux pauses for a moment in his busy day. This marked the first year that Lux was the superintendent of the Merrillville Community School Corporation.



Craw photo

TEACHERS FIND WAYS TO BE

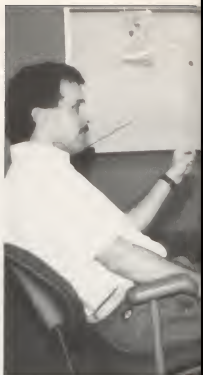
Unique

DIFFERENT
TEACHING
STYLES
REACH
STUDENT
TEACHING

THE SCENE: CHEMISTRY SECOND PERIOD. MRS. (OR MR.) YOU-know-who is going on about spontaneous endothermic reactions. You have lost interest, have lost your mind, and are halfway to Oz when you're awakened from dreamland by the sound of the teacher's voice. You're up not even ten minutes when Mr. Sandman hits again. You fight to stay awake knowing that this stuff could be useful in life someday. You wish you had toothpicks to hold your eyes open. WAKE-UP!!!

You don't have to do this anymore! Many teachers like Mike Zolfo and Randy Stelter, both English teachers, and Beth Given, math teacher, have found new interesting ways of teaching. Some of the teachers at MHS use real life situations to teach. Others have you keep journals, and yet others use games to improve listening and communication skills. No more dreading English, geometry or chemistry. Now, we actually want to learn! Scary, isn't it? These teachers are better than we thought. They have ways of making us learn without even realizing it. Could they be from another planet? No, believe it or not, they're from MHS!!

◆ JAMIE MCKENNEY



◆ Working on their award-winning banner, Maryann Foster, art teacher, shows Joe Clemens, '96, how to shade with chalk. Since FEA won the Fed Ribbon week banner competition, SADD treated them to a pizza party.



◆Giving over his students' assignments, Mike Zelle, English and speech teacher, reviews for a test the next day. Zelle not only teaches, but also works with the natural helpers, a support group at MF-S.

◆Always trying something new, computer art teacher, Wanda Rice, takes it from the beginning as she shows Mike Mitrevski, '95, how to work with Aldus Freehand. Rice and her students had to experiment with the new programs.



Fordborough photo

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE Endless

What teaching style helps you learn the most



"When they take time to explain things to you, and they aren't boring."

Lena
Gilfillan,
'95



"Working in groups works best. Friends are sometimes better help than teachers."

Jason
Adler,
'96



"Down to earth teachers."

Jeff
VanVolkenburgh,
'97



"When you learn by doing projects instead of lectures."

Milena
Maric,
'98



◆Showing her class how it's done, Beth Given, math teacher and cheerleading coach, uses an overhead projector to get her point across. Projectors along with the VIS system were often used to serve as learning aides for the students.

◆Always on the phone, English teacher, Barbara Feky tries to sort things out on her prep period. Many teachers used the time to contact parents or other teachers.

◆ Trying to complete a science assignment isn't always an easy task for Kenney Lante, '96, and Robert Lewis, '97, who both look science to fill their four credit requirement.



Crowne photo

WINNER'S PHILOSOPHY

“Cheaters
never win, and
winners never
cheat.”

-Mandy Olejnik, '95

◆ Trying to finish some last minute assignments, Andy Bowden, '97, sacrifices his lunch hour to complete his work. Many students scrounge for time to complete their work whether it be before or even during school.



Crowne photo



Crowne photo

◆ Kim Swire, '97, writes up her vocab in her French class. Vocab was the key in a foreign language since it is the backbone of the language.

◆ Looking puzzled, Thiriza Rodriguez, '97, tries her best to come up with the answers for her social studies class. If a student didn't know, the next best thing for them to do was to make a very well-educated guess.



IRRESPONSIBLE STUDENTS LEARN THE Hard Way

IN THE ENDLESS STRUGGLE TO SUCCEED, IDIOSYCRASY IS OFTEN SACRIFICED. Numerous students must deal with the pressures of learning during their high school education. These pressures can cause many thoughts to run through a student's overloaded mind. A student who is willing and able to handle these tough times will follow through and do what it takes to reach their goals. On the contrary, that student who is unable to work through the difficult pressures of school might begin to think of alternative methods. One of these methods may include cheating.

Yes, cheating. Cheating is used by students as a way to pass or get through a test that they don't know anything about. These situations, believe it or not, do occur in the classroom. Mike Mikesell, '95, admits,

"That's how I passed last year." As he remembers last year, others are thinking about the future. Tyson Owen, '95, responds, "I just hope my grandchildren don't hear about this."

The teachers are aware of this scandal, but many of them share the same views.

"The worst part about

cheating is that the student doesn't learn," remarks Irene Spiro, French teacher. Once that answer is copied on the paper, that is as far as it will go. The student does not absorb the information that is taught. Michelle Sulich states, "I'd rather the students make a mistake and learn from it, than cheat and not learn anything." This may be correct, but many students are afraid of making that mistake.

Many students have a negative feeling towards cheating. One belief Rich Stazinski, '95, has is that, "You're only cheating yourself when you cheat." This is often true, and another view is as Barbara Hoagland, '97, puts it, "Just think of the wonderful education you'll be depriving yourself of." Many students do not think of this opportunity when they are in the midst of flunking a test. One motto to live by is as Mandy Olejnik, '95, says, "Cheaters never win, and winners never cheat."

◆NANCY PACKOVSKI



◆They're not cheating now are they? Jason Leckhart, '96, along with Frank McMullen and Ricky Fresh, both '97, work as a group in Sally Goodless's math class. It is often hard for teachers to tell if the work done in groups is a joint effort or by a sole individual.

Goodless photo

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE Endless

Where is the best place to study

CHRISTINA
Celakoski,
'95

"At the library."



MATT
Trekovski,
'96

"At work."



JUSTIN
Kissinger,
'97

"The library."



MIKE
Polak,
'98

"D hallway."



◆ Tony Aquilera, '95, works quietly by himself in the student commons during his lunch hour. For many students lunch was the only chance they got to go over a few last minute things.



Corradi photo

◆ Yvonne Guardado, '97, tries to concentrate as she puts the finishing touches on her biology homework for William Angeli's 8-9 period Bio class. Angeli's often made assignments due at the end of the hour to prevent homework.



Corradi photo

◆ Jesus del Real and Robin Stupar, both '95, try to take accurate data for their lab in Jack Neulup's science class.

◆ Classical literature isn't one of the easiest classes for most, as Pam Good, '95, finds out. Classical Lit often touched on Greek Mythology, slides, and a little Shakespeare.

SEARCHING FOR THE PERFECT PLACE

Studying

FROM THE OUTSHOTS OF THE CAFETERIA TO THE PRIVACY OF THEIR own homes, good students everywhere are doing it—studying that is. But today's scholars are no longer restricted by the four walls of the library; study habits seem to be getting as unique as the students who have them.

While the traditional "study spots" usually include the public library, at home in the bedroom, and especially homeroom for completion of last-minute assignments, the places cited by some MHS students were much more distinctive. Jamle Buncich, '95, stated that, "Once, I studied in a forest, up in a tree." Her desire to be surrounded by nature while learning was shared by Angela Harris, '95, who said, "I study outside. It's too hectic in my house." These two students were among many who felt the need to escape from the "hustle and bustle" and do their studying in peace and quiet.

"On the toilet," was Abigail Vivo's, location of choice, and "In the shower," Barbara Hoagland's, '97, joking reply. Even the bathroom facilities are not exempt from the pathways of determined students.

More common areas include home-

room and first period, lunch time, and even slouched in a seat during a bumpy bus ride. Many pupils utilize their bedrooms for study time, and a few even spread out to other areas of the house. Michelle Lenart, '95, revealed her study patterns saying, "I do it in the back room in front of the T.V. with the dog sitting on my lap."

Not all students have such routine study habits. Candice Parker, '96, said, "I study wherever I can get away from my sister." Some students even confessed that they don't study at all.

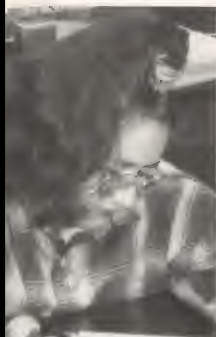
The scope of study places may be vast, but there is a common thread. Any place can be made into a study spot, as long as there is a student who is willing and determined to concentrate and get the job done, and their are no major distractions to get in the way.

◆ IRVING MALIKS

STUDENTS
SEE
CASUAL
STUDY
STUDENTS
HOME AND
SCHOOL
STUDY



◆ Erin Janovsky, '95, works on her assignment in Eob Berguson's computer programming class. Janovsky was also a member of the football Homecoming Court.



Fordough photo



◆Steve Manning, '97; Nick Wright, '96; and Paul Zukala, '97, take time out of Coach Rick Wimmer's gym class to take their pulse. This was a requirement during their 20 minute run.



Corvado photo

CORRECT BALANCE

"Many people deal with the same problems, so you just have to get your priorities straight."

-T.J. Lux, '95

◆As a part of his P.E. class, John Miller, '97, plays ping pong in the hallway outside the gymnasium.



Corvado photo



◆During a local press conference, co-captains of the basketball team, T.J. Lux and Everett Fedak, both '95, sign papers for full basketball scholarships to the college of their choice. Fedak also learned the nation this past summer playing the sport.

◆Brian Trivette, '95, takes a shot for Sally Gradless's project in math class. They were learning probability and Gradless thought basketball was the best to learn this. Each Ebergsen also had his classes in the gym for that purpose.



FINDING TIME FOR BOTH ATHLETICS AND

Academics

EVER FEEL LIKE THERE IS JUST NOT ENOUGH TIME IN A DAY TO accomplish everything? Many MHS students are involved in one or in many sports throughout the school year. Between school, practice, and homework, it can become an extremely full day for most athletes. The average athlete practices between two and three hours each day. Varsity basketball player Brett Fedak, '95, said he copes with not having enough time in a day by, "Sometimes I lift and shoot before school." He just does not have the time after school for all this pre-season practice. Natalie Conner, '97, is involved in soccer and pom-poms at the same time. She spends two to three hours practicing everyday after school. She said, "On Tuesdays and Thursdays I don't get home until 9:00 or 9:30 at night. I have pom practice and then go right to my games." Unfortunately, she has to miss some of her brother's soccer games in order to complete her homework.

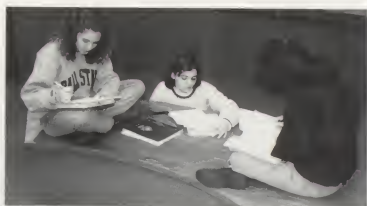
Tennis player, T.J. Lux, '95, agrees that it is tough to juggle school work and sports. He stated, "Many people deal with the same problems, so you just have to get your priorities straight." Varsity football player, Tyson Owen, '95, commented, "There's always

enough time to do what is needed to do after practices, although sometimes I glance at the clock and it reads 2:00 A.M."

Where does a social life fit into the hectic schedule of school, practice, and homework? According to Natalie Conner, '97, she must sacrifice gossiping with her friends for schoolwork and sports. Most athletes still find time to talk to and go out with their friends, but not nearly as much as they did during the previous summer.

MHS has very strict rules about athletes and whether their grades are high enough for them to participate in sports. Each athlete must pass five solid subjects in order to remain in their sport or sports. Otherwise, they will be benched, or even removed from the team until the next grading period is over, and they have improved their grades. So learning to budget time wisely, and juggling school and sports can prove to be a hectic, yet rewarding experience.

◆ JENNIFER BENLEY



◆ Tracy Parker, Angie Elliott, and Desiree Elizondo, all '95, take some time out of their hectic school day to catch up on a few things in the student commons area. Elliott runs track in the spring.

Gerardo photo

TRYING TO FINISH WORK WITH A LOT OF

Lost Time

MISSING
CLASS
AND LUNCH
MUSIC
CASUAL
LECTURE
BUT
WORK
WITH
LITTLE
TIME TO
CONSIDER
THE

ALTHOUGH IT MAY SEEM OBVIOUS, RELEASING THE SAME schedule day in and day out, attendance is the key to success in high school, or any aspect of life.

Students don't seem to realize the severity of missing school. What may seem of little consequence, in reality, deprives students of the unwritten knowledge gained from class discussions. In other words, "a lost moment in time can never be recovered."

Many teachers go far beyond the written text in the book in order to get their point across to students. These lectures are a vital part of a student's education because most of the tests are based on what the teachers say, rather than what is printed in the book. Therefore, it is literally impossible to make up this work because it can not be found in the textbook.

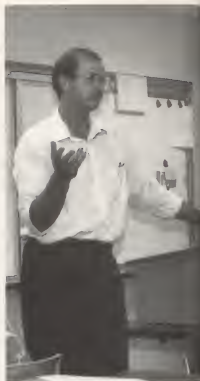
Schools generally try to make exceptions for those students who become severely ill. In such a case, these students would not be penalized. However, under most circumstances, it is the responsibility of the student to determine what is needed to be made up because of the absence. For instance, one could gather notes from classmates in order to have the general idea and main points from a discussion he or she missed.

Getting behind can create a great deal of pressure for a student. Not only is he expected to make up the work from his absence, he is required to participate in class and complete the present material.

Next time you attempt to utter the words, "Mom, I don't feel good. Can I please stay home today?" Think twice about the consequences and added stress it causes.



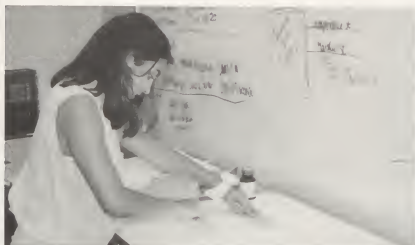
◆ A student in Jim Dailey's shop class uses the drill press. Students who enroll in machine shop become very familiar with many different machines involved in creating wood and metal projects.



◆ LAURIE MANESS

◆ Teachers, as well as students can fall behind due to missed time. Al Eranda, math teacher, tries to motivate his students to want to learn, but that may be harder than he thinks when many are out for various reasons.

◆ Newspaper is just one class you can not miss!! Claudia Neri, '96, tries to paste up the homecoming issue of *The Merc*, the student newspaper of MHS. Neri is one of six page editors.



Cornie photo

Fordbank photo

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS

What is the hardest class to make work up in



"Advanced math classes because it is hard enough to keep up when I am in class!"

Angel
LeLoup,
'95



"Trigonometry because you are always doing new things."

Robert
Heath,
'96



"Missing class can really wake you fall behind in shop."

Ted
Bewley,
'97



"Miss May's Honors English because of the compositions."

Melissa
Sonaty,
'98



◆ Steve Szol, '95, shows his book aside when he decides it's time for a short break from the exhausting brain teasing problems. Sleeping in class often made students fall behind, if they weren't caught first.

◆ Chris Miles, '98, takes his time working on an art project for Maryann Foster. This was the first time that Foster has had her students work with ink.

◆ Sam Barnett, '95, leases his long blond hair when he has extra time on his hands in class. Barnett even adds hairspray for super holding power.



Fukase photo

PAYING ATTENTION

“Students are rather rowdy, and their attention spans are no greater than a flea.”

◆ Fern Orlegan, and Jenni Randolph, both '95, enjoy the view of the balloons Nancy Packowski, '95, received on her birthday.



Gerardo photo



C. Parker photo

◆ Melissa Steller, '95, is decked out in Christmas attire on the day before Christmas break as she reads *Murder in the Cathedral* in classical literature.

◆ Cheryl Albers, guidance secretary, is accompanied by fuzzy stuffed friends as she busies herself with her work in the guidance office.

STUDENTS GET DISTRACTED BY THE SLIGHTEST

Annoyance

PICTURE THIS, YOU'RE SITTING IN PHYSICS TAKING THE TEST that you have been vigorously preparing for all week, when all of a sudden this screeching voice comes across the PA system, "Please excuse this interruption." Notice the key word in this phrase? INTERRUPTION!

At various times throughout a school day obvious emergencies arise, and the student body needs to be informed. However, many of the disturbances that occur are not worth the chaos they cause. For instance, Student Services can never have too many assistants because they are constantly pulling students out of class. Why does it seem like the only time requests are marked immediately is when you are right in the middle of something? Teachers understand the principle, yet it still causes a problem. Not only is their lecture interrupted, the student can't possibly regain what that teacher is trying to get across if he or she is expected to leave. Last hour teachers especially become aggravated because it is

the end of the day. Students are rather rowdy, and their attention spans are no greater than a flea. It seems like once the class finally settles down, and the learning process begins to take place, students come strolling in with clusters of balloons to be delivered. All eyes in the room turn

to gawk at the receiver, and students often ask questions like, "Who are those from?" Again, the teacher loses his or her train of thought, and frustration begins to build. As the class is running out of time, and the teacher tries to conclude his or her discussion, or give a homework assignment, wouldn't you know it? That voice rings in on the speaker and says, "Please excuse us for a couple of last minute announcements." When did a couple turn into what seems like an eternity? As soon as the students hear that ring, it is as if a switch clicks in their little heads. They begin to put the chairs on top of their desks, gather their things, and line up at the door. Although there are times when it is truly necessary for a disturbance, many students and teachers would appreciate a little courtesy, and a lot less disturbances throughout the day to help eliminate a great deal of frustration.

◆LAURIE MANESS



◆Brandon Nielsen, '96, imitates a "Star Trek" character, when he should be listening to his Spanish lesson. All of the foreign language classrooms are equipped with headsets to help the teachers with their lessons.

Forbes/Photo

HELPING STUDENTS AFTER

School

VARIOUS
CLINICS,
SUCH AS
ENGLISH,
MATH,
AND
SCIENCE,
OFFER
STUDENTS
ADDITIONAL
INSTRUCTION
AFTER SCHOOL.

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS: "DO RUN-INS MAKE YOU want to run away? Come to the English clinic for extra academic aid." Sound familiar? Throughout the halls of MHS, many posters form a makeshift wallpaper hoping to encourage students who are seeking additional help in difficult subjects, such as math, science, and English.

According to Nicole Hiatt, '95, "These programs can be extremely beneficial when preparing for a test." Hiatt, similar to most students, feels that the one on one teaching basis found at these clinics is mostly what is needed in order to fully comprehend a subject. Jon Shultz, '95, states, "I feel the clinic is helpful when I need to make up the work I missed from an absence."

Valerie Gutjahr, '95, adds, "I like the idea that kids can go into the clinic and receive help from teachers other than the one they see every day in class." After all, teachers have their own methods of trying to get their point across to students. Although their techniques may be comprehensible to most of the kids, there are still those few who just can't quite understand. At least in the clinics, students have the opportunity to learn from a variety of teachers. By combining the knowledge being shared from these teachers, a student is more likely to understand all aspects of the project.

The clinics are held after school in selected classrooms. Although it is held in a classroom setting, the strict rules that apply throughout the normal period do not apply. For instance, students are allowed to talk among their peers who are also participating in the clinic.

"When you have an illness and you miss twenty days of school like I did, they're great to go to and make up the work you missed," said Denise Gilbey, '95.

◆ LAURIE MANESS



◆ Solly Gradeless, math clinic teacher, takes time to help students who need the individual attention that cannot always be received in a class of 30 students.



◆Angela Fournier, '97, sits quietly and takes out her supplies for Spanish class. Students are expected to bring the proper supplies to class with them everyday, such as a notebook and pencils. Sometimes students were even required to keep journals as well.

◆Ryan Devine and Devin Parker, both '97, along with Senya Mitchell, '96, and Eddy McMillan, '95, practice in the band room. They performed this number at half-time of one of the football games.



McMillan photo

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS

How have the different clinics helped you



"Thanks to Mr. Feeney and the math clinic, I was able to pass my test."

Mindy
Foley,
'95



"Well, I thought the math clinic had helped me, but when I took the test, I flunked it."

Linda
Mysliwiec,
'96



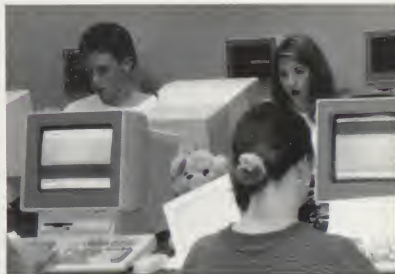
"The science clinic really helped, especially since I passed my test."

Amanda
Buda,
'97



"They help me catch up on my work, and raise my grade from when I am absent."

Felicia
Laank,
'98



◆After school, students gather in the library to receive help from the many teachers who run the math, science, and English clinics. Teachers often lend their services until 4:00.

◆Joe Stavitzke and Erica Walls, both '95, store at their computers when typing their term papers for advanced composition.



Lundberg photo

◆ Jeremy Schwandt, '96, tries to break down his opponent in a home wrestling match. MHS beat the DAC in mid-February.

◆ Andy Belush, '96, tries his hardest toward the end of his race against Portage. Although cross country is more of an individual sport, the team strived for unity.



Frostberg photo



ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN

S P O R T S

On court and off, the athletes of MHS excelled. Whether it be in tennis or basketball, they never gave up, showing the opponents that Pirate Pride was alive and doing well in Merrillville. And with the fans coming along for the ride, everyone knew that...

ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN.

◆ Phil Lewis, '95, walks off the field during the Valpo game. The Pirates were 6-3 in football for the '94 season.



◆ Tom Lepp, '95, returned a serve on the court. Sid Rivera, and T.J. Lux, both '95, went on to represent the Pirates at state.

Lower photo

Lower photo



♦ Waiting for Brian Hogan, '99, to make the call, #79 Chris Demure, '96, and #79 Mike Wisniewski, '95, keep a close eye on the Valpo defense. The Pirates leptled the Vikings with a score of 38-21.



For photo

♦ With a look of anguish on his face, Jeff Thomas, '97, watches as Valpo tries to make a comeback in the third quarter. Although they scored two touchdowns, it still wasn't enough to beat the Eucs.

♦ Leading off the game, Warren Conner, '95, tries to get his leg into the opening kickoff at the Pickett game. Conner somehow managed to play both football and soccer in the same season.



Coach Ken Coulter instructs Joe Fussey, '95, and Chris Muczeki, '96, on the next play in the Crown Point game.



Touch Down

Holding a near-perfect record, until the Portage game that is, the Bucs stood strong. Proving that Merrillville had a great team, they crushed Hobart.

We had the stadium, we had the fans, but did we have the team? Most people did not think the 1994 Merrillville football season would go that well, but the Pirates had a season to prove them wrong.

The team lost a lot of their key players from last year, but this made all the more room for other team members to come out and try their hardest.

Matt Siecker, linebacker, '96, commented, "I thought our season went extremely well. As a whole all the players performed at an exceptional level. We also had great leadership from our seniors."

With a 6-2 regular season record and 6-3 after sectionals, the team didn't let down their devoted fans.

This season it seemed as though the team could feel the school spirit pouring down from the stands. Ryan Parlock, full back, full safety, and co-captain, '95, commented, "We grew really close as a team. There was a lot of leadership and character, and there were no fights. This group really de-

fined the word team." Parlock then went on to say how proud he was to be co-captain of a team with so much unity.

The team lead the Pirates to victory during the Homecoming game with the Valparaiso Vikings by a score of 38 to 21. Kevin Pruess, wide receiver, '96, stated, "We all stuck together through adversity and played our hardest most of the time."

And who could forget the stomping of the Hobart Brickets with a score of 36 to 6 when the remarkable Marino Stath made numerous touchdowns in a single game? But to some dismay, people also remember the heart-wrenching loss to Portage. Some have said that had they had the home field advantage, the loss suffered would not have been quite as bad.

Mike Krutz, the special teams and defensive line coach, commented on the season, "I thought the overall season was going good until the last two games. We peaked at the Hobart game. Overall, that was the best game I've seen since I've been here."

◆ AMANDA RICHARDSON



We all stuck together through adversity and played our hardest most of the time.
◆ Kevin Pruess, '96

Anything
could
Happen

VARSITY		JUNIOR VARSITY	
Crown Point	32-14	Crown Point	20-0
Chesterton	35-7	Chesterton	6-22
Portage	0-28	Portage	14-8
M.C. Rogers	34-0	M.C. Rogers	34-14
Valparaiso	38-21	Valparaiso	22-7
Andean	27-7	Andean	21-7
Hobart	37-7	Hobart	22-21
LaPorte	13-28	LaPorte	6-20

SECTIONALS
Lake Central 7-35

◆ Team pictures on pages 186-187.

◆ Cheryl Gonzalez, '99, along with Michelle Fagan and Marianne May, both '96, take a few seconds before starting time to talk to Coach Loley Arneault.



Long Distance

Competing well against teams like Andean and Portage, both the guys and girls cross country teams had semi-successful seasons.



I know I'm a good runner, and I know I can do it.

◆ Jessica Figueroa, '95

They just keep going and going and going. . . . No, it's not the Energizer bunny, it's the boys and girls Cross Country teams. And what is it that keeps them truckin' the whole season long? It's definitely not the Grateful Dead, that's for sure. What keeps Jessica Figueroa, '95, going is "that I know I'm a good runner, and I know I can do it." Similarly, Rich Stazinski, '95, says, "I drive myself to become a better runner. Also, it's my love for running that makes me want to be the best possible."

Unfortunately, many potential cross country runners are discouraged from even so much as attempting to go out for the team. Just the thought of all the strenuous work and time consuming practices is enough to prevent the mentally and physically weak from participating in the sport. However, with all this confidence, how did the season turn out? Well, for the boys it

turned out to be a successful one. They competed very well in a tough conference and against teams like Andean and Portage. With many talented team members returning next year, they will hopefully deliver another promising season.

Stazinski stated, "There's a lot of talent on the team. With a lot of young members, they should have a very strong season next year."

On the other hand, the girls didn't have as much luck as the guys. By losing many quality members of their team, it restrained the other returning members, and the drastic change made it difficult. Unlike the previous year, this time the girls did not make it as far as semi-state. Although Figueroa was the most valuable player, she feels that "it is not an individual effort, but a team effort that makes a season successful."

◆ CARYN KRYSA & NICOLE HATT

◆ Jessica Vargas, '97, starts the race cut ahead of the rest.

Cross country runners must learn to pace themselves for the long haul.



Farrbaugh photo

◆ Team pictures on page 186.



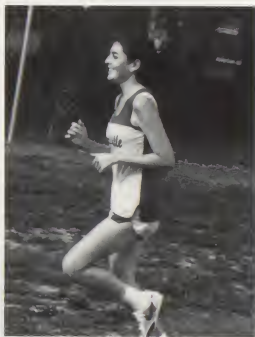
Forsough photo



Forsough photo

◆ Rich Stazinski, '95, charges full force toward another first place victory. Stazinski also takes part in track.

◆ Trying to get warmed up, the boys cross country team jogs a couple laps around the picnic area of Hidden Lake park.



Forsough photo

◆ Cheryl Gonzalez, '95, races against Andean opponents at Hidden Lake. Hidden Lake was used as the Pirates' home course.

◆ Nearing the finish line, Matthew Johnson, '96, tries to hold onto his pace. Cross Country races tended to be a few miles long.

◆ Samantha Dimoff, '97, anxiously awaits her turn on the court. Dimoff was just one of the many underclassmen who participated on the varsity team.



Game Point

Dominating the competition, players like Riddle, Harris, both Malerichs, and the Price twins helped lead MHS to a sectional title.



I think we performed to the best of our abilities.

◆ Beth Zak, '97

Volleyball definitely proved to be a dominating sport at Merrillville throughout the past year. With team members like Angie Harris, Nan Malerich, both '95, and Dede Riddle, '96, the team was bound to go far. The strength alone carried everyone to sectionals. And it was the extreme dedication of each of the members that took them even further to receive the sectional title. Both Rachel and Ronda Price, '96, along with Beth Zak, Sharon Segvich, Wava Riddle, and Lesile Malerich, all '97, were contributing players. Not to mention those who climbed the ranks for sectional play such as Sarah Frink, Kris Burke, and Stephanie Valse.

The team's feelings on the season differed from player to player. "I think we performed to the best of our abilities," said Beth Zak.

As a team, they worked hard all year, which took them to the second game of regionals. With as much power and energy as this team has,

there has to be someone or something who gets the group motivated before a game. Dede Riddle commented, "We think about what the opposing team has done to us, or we just concentrate on the game. Self-motivation."

"We accomplished many goals and on some, we came up short. We worked hard as a team and we became a unit," commented Nan Malerich, '95. "Everyone supported each other whether we were on the court or bench. With all the experience every player had, we were no longer a 'young team,' although we had a lot of freshmen."

So whether it is the motivation Riddle and Malerich speak of or everyone working as one, the thing that will be remembered most about volleyball will be their overall success. The team had an excellent season. Obviously, working together to accomplish a goal that is shared by the whole team was something that kept them going all season.

◆ SARAH BURT

Anything
Could
Happen

Andean
15-10, 15-1
Whiting
15-5, 15-10
Lake Station
15-2, 15-10
Griffith
15-8, 15-12
Lake Central
16-14, 9-15, 5-15
Hobart
15-6, 15-11
Lowell
15-5, 15-6
Boone Grove
15-9, 15-6

Cahomet
15-3, 15-11
Portage
16-14, 10-15, 15-13
Bishop Noll
15-3, 15-5
Chesterton
15-5, 13-15, 14-16
Morton
15-7, 15-6
Crown Point
15-13, 12-15, 15-13
Valparaiso
15-9, 12-15, 15-13
Rogers
12-15, 10-15

Hebron
15-4, 14-16, 15-12
LaPorte
13-15, 16-14, 9-15
Munster
15-12, 12-15, 17-15
McCurcheon
9-15, 15-12, 8-15
Fort Wayne
15-10, 15-12
Mishawaka
12-15, 9-15
Wallace
15-2, 15-3
Highland
15-3, 15-4

Hanover
15-3, 15-9
River Forest
15-1, 15-2
Hobart
13-15, 15-3, 15-2
Crown Point
15-2, 15-6
Andean
15-6, 15-9
Lake Central
9-15, 13-15



Lardough photo



Lardough photo

◆ Leslie Malerich, '97, concentrates on a serve to Andrean opponents. The Fucs dominated over the 5'ers with scores of 15-6, and 15-0. During this game, Angie Harris demonstrated her athletic abilities.

◆ Rachel Price, '96, sets the ball up for her twin lemmate Ronda, also '96. Along with the Price twins, sisters Nan and Leslie Malerich also helped the Lady Pirates to a successful season.

◆ Every time the JV and the varsity volleyball teams took the court they would come together for a single cheer. This was meant to help the team work as a single unit.

◆ Team pictures on page 190



◆ Chris Slach, '97, perfects his freestyle technique for sectionals during practice. Unfortunately, this year the boys swim team was defeated in sectionals.



◆ A swimmer heads for the finish line in hopes of a victory. The girls season was fairly successful with an overall record of 6-7.

◆ Doug Reeves, '98, comes up for air at practice after school. Swim team members had to attend practice not only after school, but also in the morning before school.



◆ Team pictures on pages 189 and 194.

◆ Morgan Gray, '96, takes a leap of faith for the Lady Pirates diving team. Gray, along with Alisa Zak, '95, acted as two of the dominating members of the team.



Going Deep

With much motivation and positive attitudes coming from their coaches, both the boys and girls swim teams concluded with fairly successful seasons.

"On your marks, get set, GO!" These words rang across the pool as the swimmers got ready to take to the water. This season went quite well for our swimming Pirates both male and female. According to Stephanie Nicolini, '96, "I feel we had a great season. The team as well as many individuals made great improvements and achievements."

Although the girls swim team were runners up for sectionals, there was still a little bit of disappointment among the team members. But overall they felt that the team gave 100% at every meet. Many improvements were made by experienced swimmers and the newcomers.

The boys swim team also had a reasonably successful season. Top swimmers were Chris Sikich, '97; Matt Pavlovich, '98; and also Eric Randolph, '95, who suffered a slight shoulder injury.

Every team has a motivator, someone who gets the team excited before a game or meet. On the boys team Ali

Santos, '98, and the coaches, Brian Angerman and Coach Mc Carthy seemed to be the ones to get everyone pumped up and ready to win. Throughout the season the boys went up against some pretty competitive teams, the top three being Munster, Valpo, and Chesterton. This year's coaches seemed to have a positive affect on the teams. Angerman who coached both the boys and girls teams was very excited about the season as well as Mc Carthy. Both coaches pushed their teams to be the best that they could be, which obviously proved positive.

The diving teams had two excellent divers this year, Morgan Gray, '96, and Alisa Zak, '95. In competition, they fared very well.

Over all, the three aquatic teams had outstanding seasons. But one feeling shared by most of the team members is that they wish more people would come and cheer them on at their meets.



The team made great improvements and achievements.
◆ Stephanie Nicolini, '96

◆ SARAH BURT

Fordough photo

Anything
Could
Happen

GIRLS		BOYS	
Griffith	121-53	Portage	127-61
Crown Point	89-97	Hobart	106-80
Hammond	105-68	Rensselaer	106-90
LaPorte	79-107	Crown Point	107-78
Portage	74-112	Lake Central	124-62
Highland	107-79	MC Rodgers	99-86
K. Valley	107-68	Munster	107-77
Chesterton	65-121	LaPorte	117-69
Valparaiso	55-130	Highland	131-55
M.C. Rogers	110-59	Chesterton	138-48
Hobart	116-60	OAC	7th Place
Munster	63-123	Lowell	112-68

◆ Kristin Lucio, '95, helps excited fans spell out "Fire!" Fosters and signs help the cheerleaders raise spirit.

◆ Steve Eckles, '95, cheers on the basketball team. This is the second year MFS has had male cheerleaders.



Fordough photo



Fordough photo



Fordough photo

◆ Megan Wojciechowski, '96, shows her spirit and courage from the top of a pyramid. The guys acted as bases for stunts.

◆ Kimberly Anderson, '95, holds up the sign, "We've Got a Team Goin' All the Way!"



◆ The cheerleaders perform cheers during halftime and time-outs in order to get fans involved.



Spirit Strong

Hard work, dedication, a week-long summer camp, and a dozen new male members, all pay off for the cheerleaders when fans show excitement and school spirit.

"LET'S GO MHS!!" This catchy little phrase can be heard at various football and basketball games from none other than the spirited cheerleaders. They are a main part of the game except for, of course, the players themselves. The cheerleaders get the crowd excited and interested in the event. Without them, who would lead the cheers and perform dazzling stunts?

This year, the exciting factor of male cheerleaders again entered the picture. Many of the present female cheerleaders are excited about their male counterparts. Angie Kilgore, '95, stated, "It improves our squad and adds to the excitement of the crowd, and it allows us to do bigger and better stunts." Since the guys have been added, practices have been longer and more challenging. Mark Lengyl, '95, cheers because he feels it "is a good experience" and would like to continue in college.

Cheerleaders are really dedicated people who love the sport of cheering.

Every summer, the entire squad attends a week long camp and a competition that is part of that camp. It is almost considered mandatory to attend, for it helps the squad improve as a whole. Aleisha Rodriguez, '95, stated, "You work your butt off, it's very stressful." They practice from early morning until evening with few breaks.

This year at competition, the cheerleaders took a dance routine and placed highly. This displays the outstanding talent of the squad and their ability to choreograph. Camp and competition are also times to show school spirit, and the cheerleaders again rated highly against other participating schools.

Cheerleading is an activity some take for granted. Can you imagine a game without them and how quiet it would be? It is hard work. Mandy Olejnik, '95, states, "Hard work and sweat pay off only when you get a crowd response."



The guys improve our squad and add to the excitement of the crowd.

◆ Angie Kilgore, '95

◆ **DEIDRE ELZONDO**

◆ Waving from a Merrillville fire truck, cheerleaders wish a happy July 4th to bystanders. Both Varsity and Junior Varsity participate in the parade each year.



Fourborough photo

Fourborough photo

◆ Team pictures on page 193.

◆ The winter guard ends a routine performed for the student body at the all-sport pep rally. This was the first year for the winter guard.



Flying High

Moving to a year-round sport, the flags will now have an opportunity to perform their vivacious routines at different games all year long.

New purple uniforms, a new coach, and brand new flags. What does this describe? The new color guard squad attracts much attention on the football field during halftime. The swift motion of their flags as the wind blows through them on a cool fall evening lures many football fans to the sight. The color guard spends many hours preparing for their performances. They spent a day during the summer at Valparaiso University where they learned different routines and many current moves. Although the camp was not mandatory this year, the girls that did attend had some valuable experiences.

The color guard has been performing during football games for many years. This year, however, they were under the direction of coach Michelle King. With the help of her two captains, Yvonne Escott, '95, and Missy Stefanski, '96, the guard feels they had a very successful year. "Since it was my first year, the routines weren't as complicated as they have been in the past, but they looked really sharp because everyone was together," says

King.

The color guard is moving to a year-round season with all of their activities. During the summer, they march with the band in the annual 4th of July parade, and the fall season leads them into football. This year, however, they moved into basketball season with the addition of a winter guard. The winter guard performed during one of the junior varsity halftimes and during one pep assembly. "Winter guard was a whole new experience this year. It is something new because we don't have to be as stiff. Performing at the pep rally was different because there were so many people. I was terrified," claims Melissa Glorioso, '96.

During spring break, the guard marched and performed at Magic Kingdom in Florida. This was the highlight of their week long trip. Nadia Venegas, '95, comments on the experience, "It was different performing with the shorter poles on the flags, but we were able to do more with them. The parade was a short parade with a lot of people watching our performance."

◆ NANCY PACKOVSKI

Anything
Could
Happen

◆ Displaying her pride for the Pirates, Deanna Price, '97, shows the community her talent in the 4th of July parade.



They looked really sharp because everyone was together.
◆ Michelle King, coach

◆ Team picture on pages 202 and 227.



Fordough photo



Crook photo

◆ Lydia Venegas, '95, concentrates on preparing for a less-perfection of a less-looked many long, arduous hours for most members.

◆ Color Guard member, Terianne Forbes, '95, performs with the band at halftime of the Crown Point game.



Crook photo

◆ Christina Petersen, '96, keeps the crowd interested with her enthusiasm. Flags join the pom-poms and cheerleaders for halftime entertainment.

Brett Fedak

If there was truly one person who could define the word champion, Brett Fedak, '95 would be the one. Helping to lead the Pirates to victories over tough teams like the Brownsburg Bulldogs and Elkhart Blue Blazers, Fedak has proven himself time and time again to be one of the team's most respected leaders. "Winning the semi-state championship and then advancing to the final four," is what Fedak claims to be the peak of his high school basketball career. While in retrospect, "losing the state championship," is what he feels the low point was.

One thing that Brett can't be called is a loser. His full scholarship to the University

of Toledo, a division one school, has justified that. "I'm looking forward to having a really good career there," commented the 6' 7" senior.

Outside of Fedak's notable athletic ability and exceptional leadership skills, one thing that

has remained priceless to him is the relationship he has with his fellow teammates. "I really enjoy playing with the team. I love each and every one of them," are a few heartfelt comments that he shared. "I guess that I will never forget about this team," he said. But probably the one person he's sure not to forget is the head coach, Jim East. Brett said, "I owe a lot to Coach East. We have grown to know each other. I will always remember him and will probably never get to repay him."

No one ever said that this man didn't have a positive attitude. When it came time to hit the courts, his outlook was simple, yet desirable. "We just wanted to win and have a positive season so we could advance as far as possible in the tournament."

With the season now over, Fedak has had the time to sit back and think about all of his achievements. He would like to be remembered "as hardworking, classy, and a winner."

◆PATRICK FARABAUGH & NANCY PACKOVSKI

Anything
Could
Happen



◆ Celebrating their victory, the Pirates held up their sectional prize. This was the third consecutive year the Bucs won the sectional tournament.



To the Dome

Between Sectionals, Regionals, Semi-State and the DAC, the Pirates set aside six months of their lives to put forth an effort that carried them all the way.



The team would be up by 20 in the third quarter, and just skyrocket from there.

◆ **Joe Barker, '96**

The Boys Basketball team started their season, not during the usual month of November, but many of the members began as early as June and August with summer conditioning.

Senior co-captains Brett Fedak and T.J. Lux gained additional confidence and playing ability through their experiences playing in AAU tournaments. The two sophomores, Jamaal Davis and Donte Price, also gained much experience through summer leagues that proved important during the season. The team started the regular season with a sixth place ranking, that eventually came up to first, and then with a triple overtime loss to Gary Roosevelt, the Bucs moved down to second. "The team would be up by 20 in the third quarter, and just skyrocket from there. It was hard to get excited when you knew the team was going to win, and by a lot," adds Joe Barker, '96.

But even though the games were easy to play, the team held a modest attitude. "At the beginning of the season, the only people who really knew what the team was made of, was the team itself," adds Travis Schmidt, '96. The talent and ability carried the Bucs to an almost entirely undefeated regular season.

After capturing the Sectional title, the Bucs needed to concentrate on the upcoming games against EC and Andean, both strong opponents. The East Chicago game proved to be full of pressure with its triple overtime play, but the Bucs ended victorious. "I told the team during the game that if they could get past East Chicago they would go to the Final Four," comments head coach, Jim East. Foul trouble throughout the game created many problems for Lux and Joe Stavitzke, '95, but Eric Culp, '95, and Travis Schmidt, '96, came off the bench to give the team an added lift.

After taking the regional title, the Bucs traveled to Purdue to battle Brownsburg. The game started off slowly and in the fourth quarter the team was down by 12 points, but soon the Pirates picked up the pace. With help from sixth man Culp, the team once again advanced to the championship Semi-State game where they defeated North Judson.

The season brought about many lessons, accomplishments, and memories for the team. "I will always remember this team and all we've accomplished. There is just too much for me to forget," concludes Lux.

◆ **KIMBERLY ANDERSON**

◆ Barreling through the Brownsburg defense, Brett Fedak, '95, tries to go up for a shot. The Judson game was for the semi-state championship.

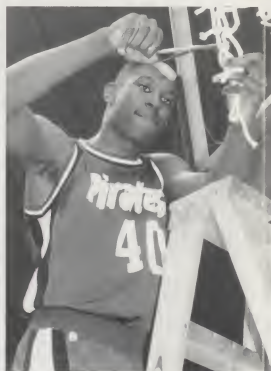
◆ **UPPER EIGHT.** Joe Stavitzke, '95, tries to block an Elkhart guard from passing the ball during the first quarter of the final game in the final four.

Munster	85-54	Chesterton	69-20	Hanover Central	85-42
South Bend Riley	91-49	Lake Central	61-41	Lake Station	77-36
Gary Wallace	79-67	Crown Point	67-47	Crown Point	64-37
Andean	83-64	Hammond Gavitt	79-48	EC Central	62-58
North Judson	74-66	LaPorte	66-39	Andean	91-85
Valpo	72-52	MC Rogers	86-42	Brownsburg	74-69
Kankakee Valley	84-38	Portage	72-38	North Judson	69-54
McCutcheon	76-56	EC Central	74-60	State	
Hobart	77-31	Highland	66-44	Elkhart Central	62-49
Gary Roosevelt	71-81	Lowell	75-48	Ben Davis	57-58



◆ Team Co-Captain, Brett Fedak, '95, goes up for a dunk during the Portage game. The Eucs won 72-38.

◆ Travis Schmidt, '96, goes up for an assist during the Homecoming game. The theme was "Pirates on a Warpath."



◆ Travis Schmidt, '96, goes up for an assist during the Homecoming game. The theme was "Pirates on a Warpath."

◆ Brett Fedak, '95, goes up for a dunk during the Portage game. The Eucs won 72-38.

◆ Ricky Eakin, '96, prepares to receive a pass from team co-captain, T.J. Lux, '95, during the semi-state title game in March.



To the Dome

For the first time since 1978, the Bucs lead the way for over 4,000 fans to the RCA Dome. Although losing by a point, they still ended up champions.

The road was long and tough, but the Bucs stayed determined and played with their hearts as well as their bodies. They never gave up on their dream to play in the RCA Dome, and in that dome they played on Saturday, March 25, 1995.

A trip to the State Finals was almost inevitable, or deserved to say the least. The pressure that the Pirates faced all year, being ranked number six to number one and finally number two in the state, only inspired the team to make it all the way, and try to win the state title. "Going to state wasn't just an individual goal, but the whole team wanted to advance as far as possible," adds Brett Fedak, '95, co-captain.

The fourteen players, along with four coaches, a trainer, and a packed bus left Merrillville on Friday morning. The last MHS team to make it to the Final Four was the 1978 team coached by Jim Vermillion. That team lost in the first round of play by a mere one point. Coincidentally, this year's team played Elkhart Central first, which was also a team participating in the '78 state finals. However, the Bucs defeated Elkhart during the first game and advanced to the championship game against the number one team, the Ben Davis Giants. "The excitement of playing in the RCA Dome and seeing 4,000 Merrillville fans are things we will always remember about the season," says East. The Bucs came to a good start, leading Ben

Davis throughout most of the game. The Giants' size and height posed a problem inside for the team. The Pirates only shot three free throws, which is the biggest free throw disparity in Final Four history. Joe Stavitzke, '95, and Jamaal Davis, '97, scored 43 points between them, with Stavitzke setting the Final Four record for five 3 pointers.

During the last moments of the game, the tension between the two teams was thick. Ben Davis was up by only four points, and with a last attempt to come away with the State title, T.J. Lux, '95, shot a 3 pointer to make the final score. Ben Davis 58, Merrillville 57. Lux also came away from the game as the 1995 Trestler Award Winner.

Anyone would be lying if they said that they weren't a little disappointed about the team not winning the state title, but the pride that the team and community felt for their dedication and determination was enough to overpower the sadness. Despite the loss, the team was able to accomplish all their goals and end up being proud knowing that they have done something that no other basketball team in MHS history has ever done. "Playing in the Final Four will make us a part of history for years to come," says Kevin Erny, '95. Although Ben Davis may have the state title, the Pirates, with their class, dedication, and ability, are definitely number one in Merrillville.

◆ KIMBERLY ANDERSON



The excitement of playing in the RCA Dome and seeing 4,000 Merrillville fans are things we will always remember about the season.

◆ Jim East

◆ Team members celebrate as the North Judson game comes to a close with a final score of 69-54. The four fingers represent that Merrillville is in the Final Four. This is the first time in nearly 15 years since MHS has made the trip to Indy.

◆ Collecting his souvenir, Jamaal Davis, '97, takes his turn cutting down part of the net after the Lohayette Semistate.





Farabough photo



Farabough photo



Farabough photo

◆ Expressing their disappointment, Stacy Eish, '97, Felli Moore, '96, Shannon Josephyn, '96, and Nan Malenich, '95, all watch as the clock runs out on the state finals.

◆ Addressing the media, Eric Culp, '95, takes a few moments to talk about the North Judson game. Towards the end, Culp was an essential player.





◆Center and team co-captain, T.J. Lux, '95, battles a North Jumbon player for a rebound during the semi-state title game on March 18. At the end of the state championship game, Lux, with his parents and sister beside him, received the Arthur L. Trester award for his mental attitude.

◆William Phillips, '96, takes his turn at the free throw line in the fourth quarter of the North Jumbon game at the Lafayette Semi-State.

T.J. Lux

An inspiration to many, and a true leader of his time, T.J. Lux, '95, has much to be proud of. After helping the Pirates through a winning season, Lux was awarded the Arthur L. Trester Mental Attitude Award. When asked what he thought made him a team leader, T.J. replied, "I work hard during games and at practice. The rest of the guys kind of looked up to me because of my experience."

Despite his own personal achievements, Lux still thinks of the team first, by saying,

"Winning semi-state and playing Elkhardt," as the height of his career. While the low point, he said, would be losing to Ben Davis by a point in the championship. What the teams co-captain's thoughts about the team and Coach East? T.J. says that, "I truly care about all of the team and I will always remember them." He also felt that Coach East, "is a great coach and he made me a better player, I owe him a lot."



Lux has much to look forward to considering he has a full scholarship to Northern Illinois. Both T.J. and Brett Fedak received their scholarship in November at a press conference organized by both East and Janis Qualizza, the Athletic Department director.

Always thinking of others, Lux claimed his parents were his inspiration. Which may be why his goals throughout high school were, "To keep on improving every year and everyday to make it to the dome, and win state." And now that it's all over, that's one of his many goals that have become a reality.

◆AMANDA RICHARDSON

Anything
Could
Happen

◆ Joe Moore, '97, takes his time returning the serve of a Valpo rival. The Pirates were toppled by the Vikings with a score of 3-2.



Match Point

Topping all past records, four players; Rivera, Lux, Boedecker, and Lenart all made the trip to the state finals



This year determination has been the key word.

◆ Kristen Sommers, '95

The dream of making it to state came true for varsity tennis players T.J. Lux and Sid Rivera, both '95. After three hour practices six days a week, hard work and determination finally paid off. Rivera's overall feeling was that "Myself and my partner were ecstatic, being the first time a Merrillville team has ever made it." Rivera and Lux finished 8th for doubles.

But don't forget about the rest of the team. They will be losing their foundation and will have to practice hard and play together as a team.

The girls got off to a great start, but after the first few matches, they began to get their act together. Co-Captain, Kristen Sommers, '95, described the team's overall attitude. "It's been a long time since Merrillville has performed well at tournament time so this year determination has been the key word." Their biggest opponents are Valparaiso and Andean to advance in sectionals. But when asked about how the season is going varsity player Pam Ruschak, '96, said, "It didn't start out

the way we expected, we lost to a couple of teams we had planned on beating, but I think that we've come together now and are going to finish in good standings."

Shelly Boedecker and Michelle Lenart, both '95, made the trip to Indy for the girls. Lenart feels, "It is quite an accomplishment to get this far." She feels that it all came together for them around sectionals.

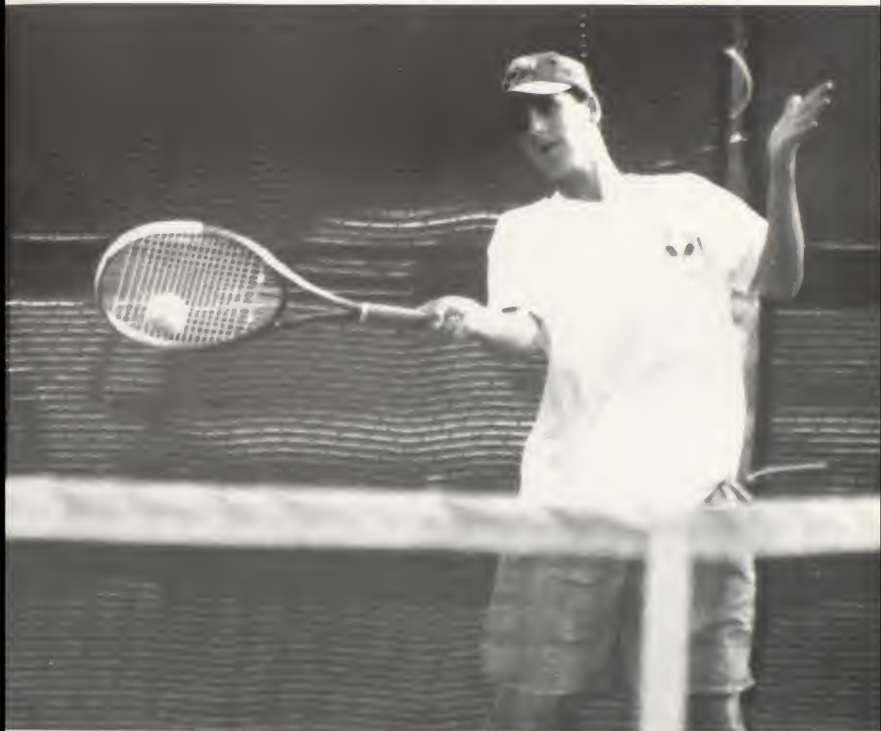
Coach Dave Zimmerman seems to agree. Zimmerman, spends much time with the teams in the off season restablishing a good foundation for a talented team. He has also worked hard to establish a good off season program that includes Pierce and Harrison Middle Schools. He feels that, "in order to build a good program you need a good feeder-program." The girls were ranked 6th at the beginning of the season.

Lux, Rivera, Boedecker, and Lenart all have made it down to Indy.

◆ DENISE ELZONDO

Anything
Could
Happen

Boys		MC Rogers	5-0	East Chicago	4-1
Lake Central	5-0	Highland	4-1	Crown Point	2-3
Plymouth	2-3	Lowell	3-2	MC Rogers	4-1
Valpo	2-2	Munster	0-5	LaPorte	0-5
Chesterton	5-0	Andean	3-2	Valpo	2-3
Hobart	5-0	Hobart	4-1	Portage	5-0
MC Elston	4-1	MC Rogers	3-2	Chesterton	4-1
Valpo	2-3	Portage	4-1	Lake Station	4-1
Crown Point	3-2	Girls		Hobart	5-0
LaPorte	3-2	Lake Central	5-0	Hobart	5-0
Portage	0-5	Lowell	5-0	Valpo	2-3
Griffith	5-0	Griffith	3-2		
Andean	3-2	Andean	2-3		



◆ Josh Larson, '06 takes aim and swings at the ball before it has the chance to bounce on his side of the court. Larson was one of many returning letterman on the team this season.

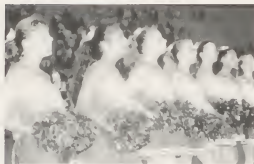
◆ Smashing the ball over the net, Cheryl Gonzalez returns the serve from a Crown Point opponent. In her free time, Gonzalez served as senior class secretary.

◆ Pam Fuschal, '06, tries her best to juggle a Griffiths rival. Fuschal proved herself as one of the strongest members of the team as the season progressed.

Fuschal photo

◆ Team pictures on pages 189 and 198.

◆ The pom-poms wait for the music to start during a halftime routine. They performed in halftime shows during football and basketball seasons.



Groove Thing

With outstanding co-captains Bewley, Packovski, and Ramirez, the pom-pom squad had a fun-filled season and a successful time in competition as well.

Summer camp, band camp, football season, basketball season, plus competitions? What a season!! The pom-pom squad was plenty busy this year. After a week long tryout in April, this squad of 28 got right to business.

In late July, the squad travelled down to Purdue for a week of learning routines, performing routines, and getting acquainted. "Camp was a blast!" comments Abby Vivo, '95, excitedly. Even though many of the girls had fun and felt more comfortable around each other, there was plenty of practice expected of them. This year, the squad brought home numerous awards including the Showmanship Award, Technical Growth Award, Spirit Stick, T.E.A.M. Award, and the Circle of Winners-Silver Award.

Not long after coming home from Lafayette, the squad was off to another camp. This time it was band camp. For two weeks straight, the girls had to learn drills that improved their marching technique. Also during camp, the drills were learned for the halftime show. Christina Gargano, '96, comments on the experience, "Besides getting a good tan from the scorching rays, it was a lot of strenu-

ous work, but people said you can tell by our halftime show." Halftime was a new experience for many people. Besides using the pom-poms, hoops were introduced to add an extra effect. "It was different marching with the band for the whole halftime show, but I liked it because the routines were easier and we were outside," said Deanna Shonk, '98.

Basketball season was soon underway. Besides performing pregame and halftime, competitions were also on the agenda. This year a new association was formed, the Indiana High School Dance Team Association, IHSDDA. After competing at various local sites, regionals and state were now in the outlook. With a third place in the dance division and a fifth place in the pom division, the poms qualified for state in Fishers, Indiana. Out of approximately 40 schools, the poms took home a ninth place trophy in dance and a tenth place in pom. "I am very proud of the squad and how far we have come this year. Our season is extremely long with a lot of performances. They've handled the stress very well," said Marianne Oates, coach.

◆ NANCY PACKOVSKI



“It was a lot of strenuous work, but people said you can tell by our halftime show.”

◆ Christina Gargano, '96





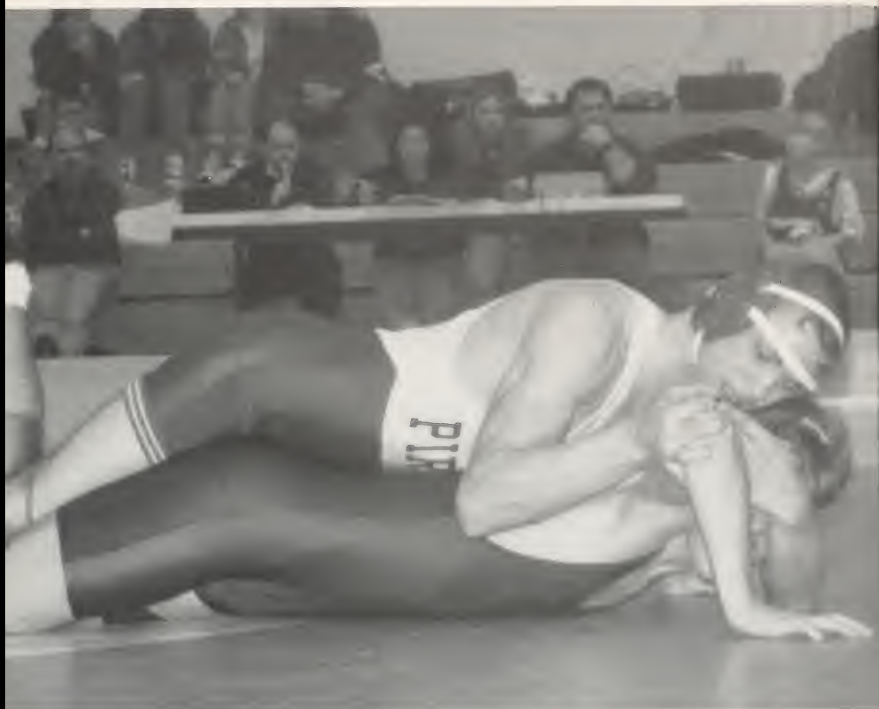
◆ Elisabeth Black, '97, performs during halftime at one of the pep rallies. All winter sports teams and also all academic teams were recognized at this time.

◆ Pom-pom co-captain Danielle Ramirez, '93, entertains MHS fans during halftime. The poms ranked highly in many local competitions.

◆ Kelly Feilman, '98, leads the pom-pom squad into a dance routine. The poms had to make cuts before being able to perform.

Anything Could Happen

F. Lindquist photo



◆ Jeremy Schwandt, '06, puts in a wing as he attempts to turn a Chesterlen opponent. This was Schwandt's third season on the varsity team.



◆ Jason Ferk, '05, circles with his opponent waiting for a chance to shoot for a takedown. Ferk, one of the only upperclassmen, was an experienced member of the team.

Upper photo

◆ Happily walking away from yet another victory, an exhausted Mike Milesell, '05, takes a break. Milesell, one of the team's outstanding members, was seventh in the state.



◆ Jared Tabor, '96, sprawls as he attempts to complete his takedown. Tabor, along with Mike Mikesell, '95, acted as this year's co-captains.



Pin Point

Despite all the dedication, hard work, and effort by wrestling team members, the year ended only average because of the lack of mat experience.

Complete dedication was the key to success on the wrestling team, especially from co-captains Mike Mikesell and Jared Tabor. The team has practiced anywhere from fifteen to twenty hours a week, with practice often ranging from in the morning before school to late workouts in the evening and after tenth period. Coach Chris Joll, and assistant coaches Mark Rosenbaum and Chris Rassbach used these training periods as complete workouts, consisting of stretching, warm-ups, running, weight lifting, practicing positions, and plays.

This season, the team was at a slight disadvantage, partially because they had only a few seniors, and many underclassmen, mainly freshmen. Ryan Valentine, '96, said, "There were a lot of underclassmen joining, and a lack of mat experience. The team's outcome in the end came out strong though, where expected, but also had some weak spots."

"It was an average year. We beat the teams we were supposed to, and lost to the ones that had our weak

spots covered," Jared Tabor, '96, explains.

The team's highlight though was when heavyweight, Mike Mikesell, '95, and senior captain, made it down to state, and competed, but unfortunately, lost.

Both Mikesell and Tabor went down to Market Square Arena, Tabor lost in the first round to Nick Hull from Lawrence Central. Mikesell, on the other hand was a little bit luckier. Winning his first round on February 10, he had high hopes of continuing on to state competition. Unfortunately, those hopes shattered when he broke his 43-0 record and ended his high school wrestling career with a loss in the second round. Still he managed to place seventh in the state.

Next year's outcome should be a more positive one, with ten returning varsity wrestlers equipped with more experience.

All in all, each match whether won or lost, became complete with effort and hard work.

◆ LAURIE WOJCIOWICZ



The team's outcome in the end came out strong though, where expected.

◆ Ryan Valentine, '96

T. Parker photo

Anything
Could
Happen

Hammond Clark	41-21	Crown Point	43-22
Goshua	50-24	M. C. Rogers	56-24
Bishop Noll	68-6	Chesterton	53-31
Lawrence	29-24	Valparaiso	21-40
Brobeuf	72-0	Pean	18-39
Lowell	61-12	K. Newton	64-6
L. S. Central	46-24	Plymouth	56-9
New Castle	21-41	LaPorte	27-20
Portage	25-31	Robert	35-30

◆Kelley Jenkins, '97, concentrates on perfecting her beam routine. Jenkins, along with Amy Sopczak, '96, advanced to compete in the state finals.



Balancing Act

Despite many injuries that could have possibly affected their overall performance, the gymnastics team proved just how strong they really are.



“It bothered me because I didn't know whether or not I'd be able to come back.”
◆Elena Malave, '98

They may break the laws of gravity with their outrageous flips and twists, but when it comes to breaking bones the girls gymnastics team takes it all. They seem to be almost stuck in an annual ritual due to the amount of injuries acquired last year. The team's season looked grim. But the girls pulled off an excellent season despite the many injuries that occurred throughout it.

One of the most serious afflictions came to Elena Malave, '98. Malave had to undergo knee surgery to repair damage she sustained during a practice, which put her out for the season. Malave, who was expected to be one of the team's star players, had this to say, "It bothered me a lot because I didn't know how far I could have gone and whether or not I'd be able to come back."

Kristin Lucia, '95, co-captain, received an ankle sprain while cheerleading, but recovered earlier in the season and was soon able to compete again. Similarly, early in the season Amy Sopczak, '96, also managed to recuperate from an injury she

had acquired from a fall during practice.

All in all, the team had much to brag about, considering the extreme conditions. The team placed an impressive second in the Second Annual Merrillville "Pirate Pride" Invitational, and second in the Lafayette Jefferson Invitational. They also took a respectable third in the Duneland Athletic Conference. The girls took third place over all in Sectionals, and also took third place in Regionals.

In addition to the excellent job they did in both sectionals and regionals, three of the talented team members got to further their chances of success at the state finals. Co-captain Amy Sopczak, '96, and Kelley Jenkins, '97, both went to the state finals. Alisa Zak, '95, joined them as an alternative competitor. Although neither Jenkins nor Zak placed, Sopczak got the opportunity to claim an outstanding fifth place on floor, and sixth all-around. Sopczak had this to say about the experience, "I was excited, but I wish I would have done better."

◆AMANDA RICHARDSON

◆Co-captain Kristin Lucia, '95, accepts an award from co-head coach Bill Roberts. The team received 2nd all-around in the 2nd Annual Pirate Pride Invitational.





Farnbaugh photo



Farnbaugh photo

◆ Pleased with her performance, Amy Sopczak, '96, gives a big smile. Sopczak placed an impressive 6th all-around at the state finals.

◆ Enthusiastically completing her floor routine, Lyndi Legman, '97, strives for a perfect score.



M.C. Rogers	98.55 - 82.55
Lowell	100.80 - 78.20
Hobart	95.35 - 92.80
LaPorte	102.95 - 91.30
Chesterton	105.05 - 110.50
Portage	103.70 - 108.15
Valparaiso	103.75 - 105.30
Crown Point	104.70 - 73.80

2nd in Lafayette Jeff Invitational
2nd in Pirate Pride Invitational
3rd in D.A.C. Championships
3rd in Sectionals
3rd in Regionals

STATE FINALS

Amy Sopczak 5th on Floor
6th All Around

Anything
Could
Happen

◆ Striving for unity, members of the varsity softball team join hands at the beginning and ending of each inning.



Heading Home

"A Decade of Domination." The theme for the year was perfect with the Lady Pirates racking up both a conference and sectional title.



"I really thought we'd go all the way. The dedication was there in each one of us."

◆ Jamie Santeramo, '96

"Practice, practice, and more practice. Monday-Friday, and sometimes even on Saturday." Dedication, faith, and teamwork is what it took to play softball for MHS. The girls found that out the hard way this past season. The team did extremely well according to Laurie Maness, '95, who said, "We could have gone all the way, but we had to get over some very tough obstacles first."

The Lady Pirates took a very positive attitude when it came to tackling those obstacles too. After making it past teams like Griffith, Portage, and Highland, they finally took their fall in the regional championship against Lake Central. Disappointed and teary-eyed seven seniors walked off the field at the end of the seventh inning, none of them even taking the time to look back at the 7-0 scoreboard that kept reminding them of their loss. "I really thought we'd go all the way. The dedication was there in each one of us," comments Jamie Santeramo, '96.

The highlight of the season for most of the girls was winning the DAC, Duneland Athletic Conference. "A Decade of Domination" was the theme printed on the back of the

shirts made by the athletic department. For the tenth year now they've tackled those obstacles to lead them to the Conference title.

"I'm very proud of what we've accomplished. I feel that everyone has given it their all," said Santeramo, '96.

The softball team gets along just like a family. "The girls are close-knit both on and off the field," comments Coach Pat Mulloy. The loss of seven very dedicated seniors will most definitely have an effect on next years team. Mulloy commented that, "We have a really good JV team coming up."

"When I look back at it all, it's not that game against LC that I'll remember, or the upset with Munster that will come to my mind. It's my fellow teammates and the coaches whose memories I'll treasure. I've had four great years on the field and never in my life would I give those times up," commented MVP Leah Frink, '95.

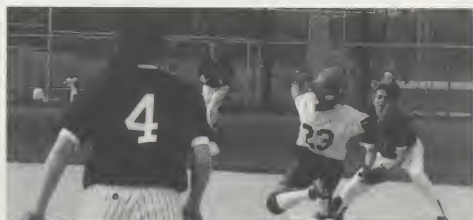
Even though the girls' post season came to an untimely end in early June, some of them will be playing again together pretty soon. Coach Bob Bergeson is traveling with them to compete over in Belgium this summer.

◆ SHANNON BUKOVAC & PATRICK FARABOUGH

Anything
Could
Happen

Andean 1	9-1	MC Rogers	6-3	Shenandoah	1-0
Andean 2	2-0	Crown Point	1-0	Twin Lakes	11-10
Crown Point	2-1	Valpo	6-0	S. Bend LaSalle	3-4
Bishop Noll	8-0	Portage	1-2	Penn	7-5
Valpo	8-2	Munster	1-3	Lowell	0-1
Chesterton	4-3	LaPorte	8-0	Griffith	1-0
Portage	1-0	Lake Central	2-3	Andean	1-0
LaPorte	3-2	Hobart	8-0	Highland	1-0
Hobart	6-1	Boone Grove	0-2	Lake Central	7-0
Chesterton	2-0	MC Rogers	8-0		





Esse photo

◆It's a hit!! Megan Meloney, '95 takes a swing as fans look on behind the fence. Meloney, one of seven seniors, will travel to Belgium over the summer to play softball.

◆Making the cut, shortstop Laurie Moness, '95, receives the ball from first baseman Leah Frink, '95 during the fifth inning of the Lake Central seasonal game.

◆Finally to head for home, Leslie Maderich, '98, looks for her earliest chance to steal third in the Lake Central game. Later the Lady Pirates led to LC in the regional championship 7-0.

◆Team pictures on page 197.

◆ Mary Johnson, '98, protects the ball from an approaching Chesterlen opponent. Although they put forth much effort, the JV was not as successful as the varsity.

◆ Warren Conner and Terry Zapinski, both '95, warm up before a game. This is the first season soccer has been a fall sport.



Easton High photo



Easton High photo

BOYS		GIRLS	
LaPorte	5-0	LaPorte	10-0
Gavit	6-2	Chesterton	3-2FF
Chesterton	2-6	Valparaiso	1-0
Valparaiso	0-3	Griffith	3-1
Bishop Noll	3-3	Andrean	0-1
E.C. Central	2-0	Bishop Noll	4-1
Lake Central	1-6	Crown Point	2-0
Crown Point	2-4	Munster	3-0
Munster	2-2	Hobart	2-0
Hobart	3-2	Portage	1-2
Andrean	4-7	Lake Central	0-2
Portage	2-1	GMA	4-0
GMA	0-6	Bishop Noll	0-1
Crown Point	0-3	Lake Central	0-1

Anything
could
Happen



◆Varsity soccer coach, Tim Thompson tries to give an inspirational message during halftime. Thompson felt the team could have done better.



Goal Mining

Team unity lacked on the boys side until the Portage game when everything came together. For the girls, starting a new sport proved to be rough.

"Is that the boys cross country team running?" people asked as the boys painfully yet spiritually ran around the school, asking themselves what would be next. No, that's the boys soccer team, coached by Tim Thompson, and they were defeated again. According to a lot of people, including Warren Conner, '95, "They didn't do too well. We had a lot more talent than showed in the record, and we didn't come through in important games." Mike Radiceski, '96, agrees. "We should've done better. It can't be an individual effort; everyone is important."

The whole season wasn't bad, though. In fact, near the end of the season, something happened... something the team had never done the whole season- they played as a team!! That's right-at the Portage game. If you know a soccer player, you heard about it without a doubt. Hank Pimentel, '96, said the game was "unbelievable. I never had such a good feeling in my life!" Radiceski added, "We just went out and kicked butt!"

Even though the girls team didn't have to run as much as the boys, they still had a hard workout. For the first

year as a team, they had an excellent season. Even though there were a few difficulties at early practices, the team really came together for the first game to whip LaPorte. Jill Matusik, '98, said, "We did really well for the first year. However, we didn't do as well towards the end of the season." In contrast, Coach Bob Bergeson bragged, "They improved every game; they played and overcame a lot of problems they had at the beginning, while learning a lot from each other."

There was a big highlight for the girls' team as well. Picture this: It's the second half of the game, Merrillville trailing Chesterton 0-2. Then, out of nowhere the team starts working together, and in a matter of 15 minutes they scored three goals, winning the game. The excitement was breathtaking. "The girls had a great season and I'm really proud of them," said assistant coach Randy Conner. Bergeson concluded, "Next year's team will be better than this year's. They learned a lot from each other. They know more of what to expect from other teams. There are great things ahead for the girls soccer team."

◆ CANDICE PARKER



We had a lot more talent than showed in the record, and we didn't come through in important games.

◆ Warren Conner, '95

◆David Poiney, '98, tries to maneuver his way through Crown Point's defense to score a goal for Merrillville. Merrillville was defeated 4-2.

◆ Team pictures on pages 188 and 189.

◆ Brian Hogan, '95, along with Adam Creasbaum, '95, and the rest of the infield, gather at the mound to discuss an upcoming play.



Beating Odds

It took a decade and a lot of determination from a team of almost all juniors to rally at the end and earn a sectional title.

You're sitting in the stands game after game. You sit there watching your Merrillville Pirates, through just as many wins as losses. You've been just as enduring as some members of the team themselves. Just when things have started to look as bad as they have ever been, something happens. Something almost unbelievable. For the first time in a decade, you've seen an outstanding, almost shut-out game against Hanover Central to lead MHS to a sectional title. It's breath-taking. Who could have ever imagined that this would have been possible. Back at the beginning of the season, not even the skipper, Fenton Macke, would have believed it. After losing one of his pitchers to expulsion, and the other to a state basketball final, Macke had nothing but bad thoughts going through his head. But, nevertheless, he remained positive around the team of almost all juniors. He knew that their only chance would come if he could turn his ball club around in sectionals.

And that he did. Merrillville-7, River Forest-1. A pair of three-run innings and the pitching of Dave Kamano, '96, shot MHS right into the heart of the sectional finals. Kamano more than

went the distance when he only allowed three hits-none after the fourth inning. That was the turning point. Ryan Miller, '96, even said that, "Our season had its ups and downs, but we didn't play as a team until sectionals."

Brian Hogan, '95, along with the rest of the team knew that once they got past River Forest, Hanover wouldn't be that tough of a challenge. After all, according to Brad Schulte, '96, it only took "One week and six games," for "Brett Fedak, Dave Kamano and I (to throw) 4 shutouts, 1 no-hitter and three 2-hitters." Actually pulling off an upset, Hanover topped Crown Point in a previous game which sent them on a one way collision course with the now sectional finalist, Merrillville. Brett Fedak, '95 gave HC nothing but grief when he only allowed three runs and two walks. But that was the least of the Wildcats problems considering the scoring spree Schulte, Adam Creasbaum, '95, and Matt Siecker, '96, brought on in the second inning. Following that, Marino Stath, '96, took a single off a wild pitch. Final score, Merrillville-14, Hanover Central-0, what a sight to see.

◆ PATRICK FARABAUGH

During one week and six games, Brett Fedak, Dave Kamano, and I threw 4 shutouts, 1 no-hitter, and three 2-hitters.

◆ Brad Schulte, '96

Anything
Could
Happen



Fordough photo

◆ Erell Fekak, '95, extends his mitt to catch a Munder opponent's foul ball. Fekak played pitcher as well as first base.

◆ Third baseman, Richard Deel, '96, prepares himself for a possible line drive. This was Deel's first year on varsity.

◆ Erian Schuler, '96, catches a strike after an opposing Lake Central player misses. The Indians defeated the Pirates in a very exciting game.

◆ Trying his hardest, Ryan Parkeck, '95, edges in front of an opponent. Parkeck also played varsity football.



Building Speed

Topping records from several years back, what was thought to have been a bad year became one of the best the track teams ever seen.



“Overall, I'm impressed with the team's performance and proud to say I'm a member of it.”

◆ Tyson Owen, '95

What do running, hurdling, and throwing all have in common? ...Okay, time's up. They're all part of what the boys and girls track teams competed in.

This past season was the best finish for the teams in several years. Both coaches and athletes alike felt that it went extremely well. "We have competed against forty-eight schools and won forty-four times," commented boys coach Ken Coudret.

"Overall, I'm impressed with the team's performance and proud to say I'm a member of it," commented Tyson Owen, '95. The greatest accomplishment of the team as a whole was placing second in the Duneland Athletic Conference according to Coudret.

All of the athletes on the team felt that the contribution everyone made was helpful to the team. "I think since everyone tries their best, they're all important," stated April Pratscher '96. "If we don't score it brings the whole team down, so everyone's contribution is important."

Chris Demure, Andy Belush, Ja-

son Simpson, Joe Foster, Jason Miller, all '96, and Owen were the team members who advanced to regionals. Throughout the regular season Owen scored the most points. He competed in the long jump, 100m, 200m, and the four by one relay. "I'm satisfied with what I've done," he commented.

Pratscher; Amy Geruska, '95; Sonya Mitchell '96; Marianne Maj, '96, Liz Simunic, '95; and Tayona Shadwick, '98, were the team members on the girls team that advanced to regional action. "My greatest accomplishment this year was making sectionals and advancing to regionals. That was my aim this season in track," said Pratscher.

This past season was not just for placing first or winning titles. The girls track team did something that has never been done in the past. With an idea from Geruska and her mother, the team started a Run-A-Thon for the Muscular Dystrophy of Northwest Indiana. It lasted from March 20th to April 20th. The team raised approximately three hundred dollars for the foundation.

◆ MATT NAVARRO

◆ Far ahead of all other competitors, Sonya Mitchell, '96, takes the lead at the Crown Point meet. Mitchell, Marianne Maj, '96, Liz Simunic, '95, and Tayona Shadwick, '98, were members of the relay team which placed fifth at the state meet and set a new school record.



Fordough photo.



Fordough photo.

◆ Making her mark, Angie Crumie, '97, prepares to land first in the sand at the end of her long jump.

◆ Clearing the pole, Joe Fester, '96, smoothly glides up and over. Fester, along with Jason Simpson, '96 was one of the few to compete in the pole vault.



BOYS		MHS	42
Chesterton	70-57	Crown Point	37
Crown Point	76-51	Griffith	43
Highland Invite		Munster	33
116 I Champions		MHS	64 1/2
Valpo	41-86	Outdoor	
LaPorte	66-61	Portage	31-87
Wallace Invite	129	MC Rogers	43-75
I Champions		Hobart	77-43
Hobart	105-21	Wallace Invite	
MC Rogers	88-39	Valpo	49-69
Portage	54-73	LaPorte	67-51
Sectional	2nd	Crown Point	71-47
DAC	2nd	Highland Invite	3rd
GIRLS		Chesterton	53-65
Indoor		DAC	4th
Lake Central	72	Sectionals	4th
Highland	12		

Anything
Could
Happen

◆ Looking for a hole in one, Matt Habugh, '96, perfects his dive at the Andreen meet.

◆ Brandi Vacho, '95, concentrates on practicing her swing at the Broadmoor Golf Course. The Broadmoor was used as the home course for both MHS golf teams.



Foranbaugh photo



Foranbaugh photo



Foranbaugh photo

◆ Matt Habugh, '96, follows through on his swing while looking on towards the green.

◆ Missy Dobis, '95, tees off at one of the many home meets held at the Broadmoor. While the girls season was in the fall, the boys were in the spring.



◆Eric Culp, '95, looks on as teammate Matt Habrigh, '96, puts the ball for par. Later in the season, Culp was named MVP.



Heavy Load

By trying to fill the void created by lost players, both teams found themselves going farther than they thought, one even captured a sectional title.

After a while, the 60 pound bag on your back seems to just get heavier and heavier. You could at least stand it for the first three miles but now, now you could care less about knocking that little white ball in the hole, you just want to take some weight off your shoulders, literally.

Between dissension within the team and different little cliques, the girls season didn't get off to the start that was planned. Members of the golf team needed to push themselves further in order to make the best of things. They needed to prove something to their coach for all the times he had them running around the putting green like a bunch of little lost mice. They wanted his respect. And as the season progressed, they got it, along with a third place in the Duneland conference. Quite an outstanding accomplishment for such a young team.

"It's hard to really get yourself motivated towards a sport that doesn't have much public appreciation," comments Brandi Vucko, '95, "You have to be a very self-determined person with a very strong sense of self satisfaction." Vucko along with Missy Dobis, '95, were the two returning lettermen to the team.

Not everything was so downrooted though. Most of the returning players felt they had an advantage considering that they had the grown to know their

coach. "We really got a better knowledge of what he expected from us as each season past," commented Dobis, "It really made us a stronger, better, and more focused team in my opinion."

Following the path the ladies blazed, or at least cleared, the boys still ran into a few detours of their own. Like the females, the guys only had two returning senior lettermen as well. Eric Culp and Jon Rowe, both '95, had to serve as team leaders since other essential players from last season didn't return. "The players who came back improved, but I really believe that the team would have been a lot better if all the eligible players could have played," said Culp. But by staying focused, they did manage to pull off something that has slipped out of the Pirates reach for over five years. They took the sectional crown and advanced to regional competition. Practicing every day after school for an hour and a half finally paid off when they got to hold the trophy up and show off their prize. Surprisingly, the guys didn't stop there. Culp even came 5 strokes away from the state meet, earning him the MVP tilt and best mental attitude. With everything now over, it's a much lighter load the golfers have to tote around. A few books is nothing compared to a bag filled with iron clubs and a bunch of little wooden tees.

◆PATRICK FARABAUGH



The team would have been a lot better if all the eligible players could have played.

◆Eric Culp, '95

Anything
could
Happen

Girls		Boys	
K. Voloy	228-205	Walpo	203-196
Lowell	212-258	Marquette	226-218
Chesterton	255-290	Hobart	Forfeit
Munster	223-183	Andean	193-182
MC Rogers	133-Forfeit	Portage	200-187
Bishop Not	195-228	Miner	189-199
Crown Point	205-229	LaPorte	192-243
		Lake Central	193-215

Farabaugh photo

◆Team pictures on pages 187 and 196.

◆Team unity was one of the key elements to the Lady Pirates season. Some felt that they were lacking in that area though.

Tough Times

Although this season may have seemed like a regression from those of the past, the Lady Pirates went farther than what was ever expected of them.

The Lady Pirates basketball season was not a fun filled carnival. The only thing close in relation to a carnival was that the season was like a roller coaster. If you asked Stephanie Valse '97, about the season that is what she would say. The girls basketball team opened on November 11 against Munster with a win. Beating Munster was not their only win, their record was 11-10.

They ended their season losing to Crown Point in sectionals. In the first sectional game the Pirates beat Hobart 49-46. The second game was not as successful as they had hoped it would be. They lost to Crown Point 44-14. Although the loss was great, the team did achieve something they hadn't done before in a long time. This is the first sectional final that the Lady Pirates have advanced to since 1989. Behind every team there are coaches. Head coach Michael Pritchett was assisted by Lori Dust. Another difference was that there was only one senior, Lori Modglin, '95. Pritchett thought "The season didn't go as well as I had planned. We had some early season distractions and some inju-

ries. The team then had to rely on a few underclassman, and it took its toll. All in all it turned out well." Sonya Mitchell said, "I feel our team didn't performed as well as we were definitely capable of doing."

Not only did Pritchett feel they could have performed better but so did some of the players. Some important elements seemed to have been missing, mainly dedication and leadership. Pritchett felt the girls were not as dedicated as he wanted them to be. Not only was leadership missing, in Pritchett's opinion, but it also made this season different from the last. Pritchett said "Last year the team had more upperclassmen and a couple of leaders stepped forward. This year, the team was younger than I expected and no one seemed to want to take that step forward and lead by example."

Although the season didn't go as well as expected, Pritchett coached the Lady Pirates to 11 wins with many highlights. Their highest scoring was against Hammond Gavit with 92 points.

◆TRACY PARKER

I feel our team didn't perform as well as we were definitely capable of doing.
◆Sonya Mitchell, '96

◆Carolina Freder, '97, goes up for the ball in the first game of sectionals. The Lady Pirates defeated the Elkhart Freebies 49-46.

◆Team pictures on page 192.



Frankovich photo



Frankovich photo

◆ *Greeng...Greeng... Good!!! Fonda Price, '96, goes up for a two point shot as her teammates, and twin sister Rachel watch.*

◆ *Valerie Pratscher, '98, looks for an open teammate. Pratscher was accompanied by many other underclassmen this season.*



Munster	64-40	Crown Point	33-57
Gavitt	92-33	Hobart	51-46
Roosevelt	83-52	Low Wallace	48-49
E.C. Central	40-79	Valparaiso	18-69
LaPorte	52-51	West Side	38-57
Andrean	59-44	Calumet	71-46
Chesterton	52-59	Michigan City	48-46
Portage	38-54		
Highland	40-40	SECTIONALS	
N. Judson	44-49	Hobart	49-46
Southmont	59-56	Crown Point	14-44
North Knox	45-56		

Anything
Could
Happen

COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE **BETTER**

PEOPLE

◆ Grouped together from the first day to the last few moments before commencement, we learn not only about math and science, but about each other. Making new friends every step of the way is just one of the many things we'll remember MHS for. Looking back, we'll all realize that things **COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE BETTER** than they are right now.

◆ Mike Guernsey, '95, does his own little dance at football Homecoming. For students, the dance was a time to have fun with friends, and enjoy the night.



◆ Shelly Eedecker, '95, stands at the finish line of a cross country meet, waiting to see who would win. Rich Skorzinski, '95, finished first against Andreea.





Fordough photo



◆ Robin Slupar, '95; Ben Olson, '97; Carrie Sullivan, '95; Rick Lyons, '95; and Vesna Tanaschuk, '95, meet in the Student Commons, during first semester finals. Many students had more than one lunch, due to schedule confusion.



Fordough photo

◆ Mark Lenqgel, '95, top dances during a football game halftime show. Lenqgel is well-known for his acrobatic feats like backflips.

LUCAS mark

With five daughters of his own, Mark Lucas is more than qualified to serve as school board president. Elected for the job by the three other members on July 1st of 1994, Lucas' job mainly entails presiding over board meetings and signing significant documents and contracts. He tries to attend as many school functions as possible, but modestly admits, "I don't think being president gets you any special invitation."

Lucas considers the major concern facing the school system is a lack of state funding. With a continual increase in the student body, and a lack of corresponding increases in financing, class sizes are on the rise, making it more challenging for teachers to give students the attention they demand. Lucas hopes that as Ross Township grows and generates more students, the legislation will be passed

to provide more financial support.

As for his goals for the high school specifically, Lucas hopes that with the new and improved school, students will "maximize use of the facility."

In addition to his position in the administration of the school system, Lucas coaches Merrillville girls softball and youth soccer teams, and in his spare time, enjoys playing golf. Also, in the community, he is a partner of the law firm, Lucas, Holcomb, and Medrea, and serves on the Board of Advisors at IUN, and the Board of Directors for Bank One in Merrillville. Between helping to raise his five daughters, working for the school system, and working in the community, Lucas leads a many-faceted life.

◆ **THE LUCAS**

COULD
Possibly
Be BETTER



SUPERINTENDENTS-Dr. Bud Marks, asst. superintendent; Dr. Tony Lux, superintendent; Ron Price, asst. superintendent



ATHLETIC/WEELNESS DIRECTORS-Janis Qualizza, athletic director; Tom Cameron, asst. athletic director; **NOT PICTURED:** Dan Mulvihill, wellness director



SECRETARIES-Row 1: Shirley Barclay, Elaine Hyding, Liz Frasca, Row 2: Debbie Klippel, Judy Vassallo, Maggie Miller, Debbie Zellers, Jean Webb, Cheryl Albers



SCHOOL BOARD-Dale Brooks, member; L.J. Crist, vice-president; Mark Lucas, president; Donna Stath, secretary; Timothy Flynn, member



PRINCIPALS-Tom Herbert, asst. principal; Dr. Daniel Rapacz, principal; Beverly Bashia, asst. principal



MEDIA/TECHNOLOGY/MAINTENANCE DIRECTORS-Mary Lou Sproat, media services director; Ray Mixell, technology director; NOT PICTURED: Gordon Lorentz, maintenance director



CUSTODIAL HEALS-Don Hickman, Helen Moravskij



ARTS-Row 1: Mary Scheffer, Shirley Ortegán, Janet Pennoek, Sue Matthews, Row 2: Carol Lamphrect, Peggy Snelson, Carol Hogan, Gloria Zale, Barb Branda, Nicki Jusko, Margaret Leposky



SPECIAL EDUCATION AIDES-Row 1: Kathy Abbate, Martha Pendergrast, Row 2: Sandy Miller, Kathy Wilczynski, Mary Sturm

Paul Abernathy
Evelyn Ambrosch
Janet Anderson
Bill Angilakis
Joe Alton
Morgann Battistini
Mary Ann Eberham
Allen Edwards



Robbie Bellwell
Lee Bellom
Judith Chisholm
Linda Christoff
Mary Clay
Jeff Climbetard
Fern Coulbert
Jackie Crane



Terr Deth
Steve DeVilze
Paul Dlouhy
Nancy Draper
Miles Dunscombe
Leri Durd
James East
Richard Eble



Doc Edgcomb
James Edgcomb
Roger Emig
Sharon Estes
Tom Fosney
Diane Furne
Morgann Foster
Linda Fry



Drew Furness
Mary Ann Galanis
Rick Garner
Elizabeth Given
Sally Gredless
Raymond Hamilton
Dick Hill
Richard Hurry



Max Hutchison
William Idzier
Sheran Isak
Jim Johnston
Christopher Jell
Jerrold Kasanda
Michelle King
Barbara Kirby



John Kobza
Rosellen Pazzol
Mike Prutz
Margaret Laine
Connie Lewis
Diane Marden
Nicole May
Patricia McNally



Mena Miller
Robert Moore
Joe Morrow
Patrick Mulvey
Marianne Oates
Tom Peller
Josefina Porcigal
Terry Pratt





Lisa Frazee
Fernandine Fultz
Cvet Fainey
Allen Fendings



Jerald Feinbart
Wanda Fice
Andrea Fogelt
Eennie Sanders



Violet Schmuck
John Seale
Mary Sheshoe
Margaret Stallings



Jean Stanford
Evelyn Steiner
Randolph Stiller
Lyle Stollings



Laura Stoner
Michelle Sudich
Esue Teeler
Richard Terpstra



Barbara Zimmerman
Carol Van Eshren
Janet Wilson
Madeline Wilson



Rick Winner
Erace Woods
Jeff Yellen
Dave Zimmerman



Michael Zello

Faculty Not Pictured

Eck Ferguson
Charles Correll
James Dailoy
Jim Flurhes

Mary Jellines
Judy LeDuc
Jack Neuliep
Shirley Penner
Evan Ship
Irene Spire
James Vermillion

Porapat josefina

The newest edition to the teaching staff can often be seen speaking fluent Spanish in the hallways. Josefina Porapat was born and raised in Spain which could explain why she speaks the language with such ease. Maria Papadakis, '96, one of Mrs. Porapat's third year students, stated, "Since she knows the language, she can help you understand better."

When Porapat was twenty-nine, she was married to a Chicago native and had a one year-old son. She loves her sons very much and has second thoughts about moving back to Spain because of them.



But out of all the schools, why teach at Merrillville? She replied, "It has a strong community feeling. But now that I am here, I realized that everything and everybody is better than I had imagined." She stated, "The foreign language department is one of the strongest I have worked with, and the students are very good." She replied when asked about the best excuse she ever gave to a teacher, "I never was a nerd, but I don't think to have given an excuse to a teacher. I was always prepared. They are tough in Spanish schools." But what she misses most about Spain are, "The blue waters of the Mediterranean Sea all year round. But especially my parents and the rest of my family."

◆ DEBORAH ELIZONDO

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

La Iazita Adams
Iyana Adams
Famiro Aguilar
Anthony Aguilar
Jorge Alcor
George Alexandris
Tom Alexandris
Eugenio Alvarez



Alex Annunovich
Michael Andersen
Juan Arango
Fidel Andueza
George Arden
Alfred Arano
Cecilia Argento
Tracy Armstrong



Matthew Askin
Ilja Asie
Stephanie Badgley
Elisa Fares
Kathleen Bartelme
Jonathan Esau
Eric Esche
Jennifer Esch



Carolyn Edmish
Martha Edmish
Jeffrey Ederne
Samuel Ederman
Flora Ederowski
Jeffrey Elders
Feather Eldership
Jason Eldership



Alicia Elander
Elizabeth Eches
Ronald Elden
Ebecca Enoch
Terrence Eoyl
Christin Erdley
Andy Eriggs
Kevin Erndner



Ann Erenowski
Elizabeth Ercan
Sarah Ercan
Selman Ercan
Fredrick Eard
Faith Eralovic
Fally Earle
Maia Ercincks



Andrew Eyrom
Robert Cagle
William Campbell
Patty Cantrell
Richie Carden
Jack Cardin
Jason Carr
Feather Carter
Amber Casteln
John Casteln
Faye Castille
Elaine Castro
Edith Cather
James Cerand
Michelle Chandler
Brian Chyemen





Janie Chapman
Joshua Christoff
Christa Ciarroccone
Angela Clark



Kimberly Clark
Matthew Clements
Nakia Clements
Lillian Coo



April Connolly
Amanda Cook
Jason Corione
Crystal Ceurington



David Crum
Ivan Crum
Nicole Crisman
Nathan Cress



Jeff Cude
Michael Curtis
Jody Cypert
Foristan Earlen



Michael De Courcy
Jack De Foven
Alicia De Leon
Christina De Long



Fog De Young
Craig Demoree
Richard Deme
Lupita Despedesh



Zoran Despedesh
Angela DeSouza
Damian Dillane
Lucia Dupert

CHANDLER

She's nice, understanding, and enjoys having fun by doing her best at everything she does. On a normal day, you can find her being her usual self: hyper and full of energy. She always tries to be a friend to everyone. Who is she? Why her name is Michelle Renee Chandler. Many of her friends know her as "Misha". What sets her apart from other people? "I think that I am different from other people because I try not to be who I am not. I feel that if someone is going to be my friend then they will like me for who I am and not expect me to change," she says. Chandler always has a smile for everyone.



Chandler is involved in mixed choir. She believes that it is interesting and can be a challenge. She hopes to be active in choir all four years of high school. Some of her hobbies include talking on the phone and listening to the radio. Unbeknownst to many people, she loves to dance! She agrees that it may not be a talent, but she loves to do it anyway. In addition, she adds, "I really enjoy rollerblading because it is a challenge of life!"

What does she plan to do in the future? "I plan to get married and raise children to the best of my ability," she says. But before she gets married, she would like to attend Ball State University and share a dorm with a couple of friends. One day she also dreams of participating in professional ice skating.

◆ SHANNON BUKOVAC

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

Jill MATUSIK

What kind of a person do people say Jill Matusik is? While her friends believe she is reliable, yet crazy and outgoing, Jill thinks of herself as her own person. Perhaps this would explain why pickles are her favorite food.

Initially, Matusik spends a great deal of her time involved in athletics here at the high school, as she did back at Harrison.



Her time after school and evenings are spent perfecting her soccer, basketball, and softball techniques. On the other hand, she also makes sure to save time for her homework to maintain her 4.0 GPA.

Matusik explains that she has gained a lot of motivation from her older cousin Allison. "She gives me reassurance, keeps my spirits up, and can always make me smile. She is like my best friend and the older sister I never had." Obviously something keeps this outstanding student going.

Matusik has many goals for her lifetime. One of which includes attending her favorite college Notre Dame. She would also like to have a career, a family, and a future that holds soccer somewhere in it. But Matusik still has one goal before her high school career ends. What's left to desire for the girl who has so many great qualities? "I'd love to run my fingers through Chris Dimitroff's hair," she says.

◆ GARYN KRYSA

**COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER**

Ashley Debb
Evens Dobrich
Naam Eusebio
David Eucherich

Lynn Duplaga
Fletcher Eganer
Matthew Eganer
Joe Fich

Felly Fblodge
Charles Fillett
Lerry Funnons
Clarence English

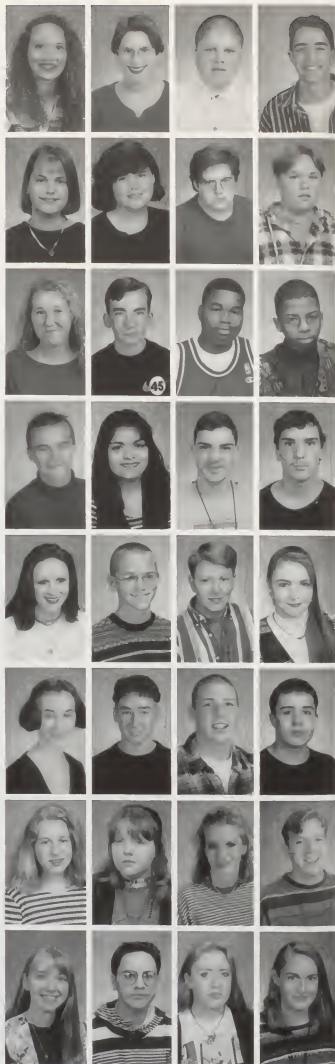
Favin English
Grace Escamilla
Alexandres Espigola
Andy Espigola

Tiffany Essex
Jeffrey Fairbairn
Michael Fluhla
Christina Forrest

Lauren Frolinger
Joshua Francis
Fyran Francis
Jason Frenzen

Esteban Freeman
Margaret French
Anne Frey
Dennis Fuzzell

Kathryn Gaines
Denny Gale
Annie Gallagher
Lisa Garbus





Erion George
 Anyela Georgeyan
 Diana Gill
 Mercedes Goetz
 Marie Gonzalez
 Geoffrey Gough
 Dianne Goodman
 Jennifer Gordon

Stefco Goreski
 Elizabeth Gray
 Rebecca Greenberg
 Priscilla Greene
 Beth Greger
 Bradley Gregory
 Jacob Gress
 Yvonne Guardich

Angie Guernsey
 Phillip Guernsey
 Brian Guesser
 Aaron Guice
 Maria Hallas
 Amber Hamilton
 Diana Hamner
 Joseph Harbour

Jacques Harris
 James Harris
 Sarah Harris
 Pamela Hawkins
 Nicholas Hazi
 Ederis Head
 Jessica Heerme
 Ginny Helman

Erik Herbst
 Jesus Hernandez
 Anna Herreros
 Joyce Herrera
 Larry Hertzog
 James Hiesler
 Jennifer Hill
 Megan Hill

Christopher Hodges
 Brandon Hoffman
 Stephanie Hogan
 Nick Holm
 Laura Hoover
 Chishawndra Horne
 David Houser
 Danielle Houch

Shannon Houch
 Jennifer Hummel
 Mike Funke
 Michael Igarta
 Anthony James
 David Janda
 Bill Janowsky
 Elaine Johnson

Erisharen Johnson
 Marjaret Johnson
 Mary Johnson
 September Johnson
 Matthew Johnston
 Erik Jones
 Ronald Jones
 Tiffany Jones

Don Joseph
Nenad Jovanovic
Alexander Jovanovich
Nucle Jovanovich
Michael Jovanovich
Eugene Jovanovich
Steven Jovanovich
Sheryl Jovanovich



Stephen Jovanovich
Felix Jovanovich
John Jovanovich
Andy Jovanovich
Andy Jovanovich
Danielle Jovanovich
Michelle Jovanovich
Joy Jovanovich



Shawn Jovanovich
April Jovanovich
Jennifer Jovanovich
Joseph Jovanovich
Jerry Jovanovich
Andrew Jovanovich
Eduardo Jovanovich
Jennifer Jovanovich



Paul Jovanovich
Steven Jovanovich
Leo Jovanovich
Teri Jovanovich
Richard Jovanovich
Jennifer Jovanovich
Eduardo Jovanovich
Jennifer Jovanovich



Jason Jovanovich
Joshua Jovanovich
Eduardo Jovanovich
Michael Jovanovich
Peter Jovanovich
Anne Jovanovich
Darius Jovanovich
Harold Jovanovich



Amber Jovanovich
Jason Jovanovich
Aron Jovanovich
Eduardo Jovanovich
Steve Jovanovich
Melissa Jovanovich
David Jovanovich
Melissa Jovanovich



Eric Jovanovich
Sean Jovanovich
Allison Jovanovich
Terri Jovanovich
Anthony Jovanovich
Eduardo Jovanovich
Richard Jovanovich
Irene Jovanovich



Flora Jovanovich
Linda Jovanovich
Joe Jovanovich
Eduardo Jovanovich
Matti Jovanovich
Melissa Jovanovich
Steve Jovanovich
Amber Jovanovich



KISZKA

april

The halls are quiet until April Marie Kiszka comes bounding through the doors. Full of vitality and fun, she can make just about anyone laugh. You never know when this gal might burst into a goofy song or catch a contagious case of giggles. When asked about any hidden talents she may have, she said "I can wiggle my ears!!" What sets her apart from other people? "Well, I do not care what people think. I like to be different and not like the crowd." She is definitely unlike the average teen.

Kiszka is always doing strange things. One time, she was fishing with her grandparents and caught a sea gull by accident. Kiszka had her bait skimming across the water and a sea gull came and stole the bait! Needless-to-say, the bird got caught up in her line so her grandpa had to untangle the bird before it could fly away.

She remembers one of her most embarrassing moments was in fifth grade gym when she slipped on the floor in front of everyone.

Some of her favorite things are tacos, "Fresh Prince of Bel Aire," and spending time with her friends. Her favorite song is "On Bended Knee," and her favorite group is Boyz II Men.

If she had the chance to do something to change the world, this eco-sensitive gal would like to invent an ozone-maker so that she could repair all of the holes in the ozone layer.

After high school, Kiszka plans to attend college and get a medical degree. She would some day like to become a pediatric nurse.

◆ SHANNON BUKOVAC

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

Lindsey Martin
Alaygal Matted
Jill Motusak
Mark Magerdy

David Mc Carly
Jennifer Mc Carly
Shawn Mc Carly
Jeremy Mc Clain

Fonnie Mc Farland
Freddie Mc Feather
Ernie Mc Linden
Felly Mc Stone

Yashima Mead
Jason Meerna
Francisco Medellin
Sergio Medellin

Jeffrey Meeks
Lorel Melic
Teresa Melendez
Angela Melul

James Meze
Mosly Mezaga
Dennis Mihm
Steven Milol

Chris Miles
Isanjanika Miller
Jill Minton
Greg Mohl

Lisa Michlin
Jamie Michrak
Peter Monteleone
David Morgan



Shoback Jennifer

Although one might perceive her as outgoing due to her super up-to-date grunge appearance, Jennifer Shoback '98, is really just the opposite. Quiet, timid, and shy, Shoback is true to her hometown, Merrillville, where she now shares the household with her mom and dad. Her older brother Steven and sister Christen have already left the nest, and she sometimes feels a little lonely without their companionship. Shoback, a

truly sociable Libra spends her free time hanging out with friends, K a t h y Bartochowski, '98; Tracey Armstrong, '98; Maria Halkias, '98; and many others. She also enjoys listening to her favorite

music artists, such as Nirvana, Soundgarden, and Hole. Shoback's true love, though, is snuggling up with the newest ghost stories she can find. She remembers last year when she and a bunch of friends accidentally got locked in a haunted house. "At first we were really scared, but it was still kind of cool."

Shoback is striving to be the best she can by getting good grades. Math class is one of the subjects that needs a little extra studying time. "Once in a while I have to really focus on the subject and do a little extra," she comments. Her life was greatly influenced by the late Kurt Cobain, who committed suicide due to drug influence. She once looked up to him as an example, but she now understands better that "Life is the greatest gift one can have."

◆ LAURIE WOITOWICZ

Couldn't
Possibly
Be Better



Christopher Merk
Tomasz Morris
Joshua Morse
Erin Mulvey

Johnny Muritz
Alley Muzka
Katie Muzka
Michael Muzik

Adam Najdos
Patricia Naimosi
Elizabeth Nawara
Kristina Nawara

Jeffrey Nelson
Kostas Nidaras
Pamela Nidich
Kate O'Sullivan

Jonathan Oaks
Suzanna Okelowski
Jessica Ollech
Anthony Ortiz

Marie Ortiz
Laurie Owen
Tina Owen
Kathryn Padberg

Sarah Pagel
Fargyn Dahl
Joshua Paniquos
Adam Parduhn

Debra Parker
Brett Parkack
Peggy Parrish
Kelly Patterson





Matthew Dawlesch
Jason Deamon
Santos Pedraza
Jeff Dick
Luisbardo Piele
Diana Pena
Angelo Pena
Erin Pendley

Jami Penilla
Bridget Pelties
Hircosolent Pelties
Jordan Pierson
Paul Pittman
Christopher Polak
Michael Polak
Bradley Polozes

Alberto Pories
Wesley Potts
Tasha Potts
Valerie Preischer
Daniela Prientzki
Kelly Preuss
Erin Price
Terrie Prince

Nicole Quinter
Amanda Radigan
David Rainey
Nicole Rakich
Adrian Ramirez
Rafael Ramirez
Jamal Rashad
Marry Rastbach

Jessica Reed
Douglas Reeves
Kristin Rendina
Lisa Rennehan
Ryan Reentschler
Renae Reyes
John Richards
Richard Riach

Nicola Ristovski
Danielle Rivera
Natalie Rivera
Steven Rivera
Jennifer Roamos
Erin Roberts
Chinique Robinson
Ren Robinson

Jeremiah Rodriguez
Eduardo Roman
Evel Romeo
Johnny Roods
Jennifer Rose
Daniel Fesenbaum
Erin Roth
Timothy Roylean

Kimberly Ruhl
Kimberly Rumph
Curtis Rund
Ronald Ruzzin
Melissa Sabo
Rosa Salazar
Anthony San Miguel
Jennifer Sanders

Ali Santos
Arleen Sattler
Beth Schaffer
Sarah Schaub
Jesse Schramm
Chris Schuck
Timothy Seibel
Matt Sell



Dennis Semedo
Drew Seydel
Adam Shaffer
Jennifer Shaffer
John Shelhart
Erinny Shellen
Rachel Sheridan
Andrew Shih



Alicia Shingler
Jennifer Shook
Clint Shoenmaker
DeAnna Shook
Jacob Sils
Roger Sils
Janie Simpson
Michelle Simpson



Erion Sims
Michael Simanjok
Susan Siskiewicz
Gabriel Skolozis
Nicole Skura
Eranda Smith
Erion Smith
Jeffery Smith



Jacob Santorano
Tiffany Saever
Cassandra Seiden
Melissa Seely
Anthony Sere
Daniela Sedreski
Denny Spalorus
Maria Spasos



Matt Speracino
Daniel Spitzer
Stephanie Sperko
Kevin Stanford
Alexis Stahl
Aaren Steele
Foristan Stefaniewicz
Christy Stewart



Lorie Steel
Lori Stenipher
Eugene Steub
Phil Strong
Sherrie Slupic
Donald Sumner
Alan Suttle
Alicia Suttle



Jason Tabor
Jonathan Tallent
Andy Tavis
Jeffrey Tapper
Jacob Tallado
Alaki Theodore
Morris Thomas
Elizabeth Todoroski





David Edwards
Erin Leith
Miguel Lopez
Iyer Iyedi



Allen Tolt
Abigail Tylor
Eileen Tylor
Janie Ullrich



Scott Underwood
Adam Vadas
Michelle Vasiltski
Stacy Vasele



Timothy Vassilew
Richard Vawter
Samuel Vazianellis
Denny Vekov



Lyndberly Veal
Natalia Via
Felicit Vinton
Paul Vingo



Eugene Vlasie
Julia Valin
Christina Vukotic
Nicholas Vurva



Christy Walsh
Felicia Walters
Matt Warren
Polly Wellestad



Michelle Westerfield
Timothy Wheeler
Tatiana Williams
Linda Williams

Roames

What makes Jennifer Roames different from other people? According to her, it may be her big dimples; so deep, in fact, that she says, "my thumb fits in them." She doesn't hesitate to show those big dimples to the people she deals with in a variety of clubs. Roames plays soccer on the school team and is a member of the marching and concert bands. Outside of school, she enjoys participating in the activities of the FCA (Fellowship for Christian Athletes) and other church youth groups. Her talents include singing and playing sports, and also playing the oboe, piano, and saxophone. As though these activities do not keep her busy enough, she enjoys drawing and cartooning in her spare time.



In the short term future, Roames plans on traveling to France the summer before her sophomore year. Later on in life, she hopes to attend a large college outside of the state. She'll look for a school with good academic courses, yet many sports and clubs. Apparently, Roames plans on continuing her great sportsmanship well beyond her high school years.

◆ IRENE HALLIKAS

COULD'N
Possibly
Be BETTER

KOSTESKI

bobby

Remember that at one point in our lives we were all freshmen. Each one of us knows how it feels. We all know how freshmen are looked down upon and viewed as scum of the Earth. But in reality there are many interesting underclassmen.

Fourteen year-old Bobby Kostoski, '98, was born on August 19, 1980, in Merrillville IN. Lazy is not a word used to

describe Kostoski. Although he is not involved in any clubs. He plays soccer for MHS. One of his best friends, JR Medellin, influenced him to join, under the expertise of Coach Tim Thompson.



Many of us would not have the willpower to get up every day and run four to five miles a day after school. It requires self-discipline and dedication. And even though he plays soccer, he just can't get enough. He often enjoys watching soccer games.

When he has free time, Kostoski enjoys going to the movies, going to the mall, and just hanging out with his friends Chris Celeski, JR Medellin, Rod Ducleski, and Steve Sikanoski.

He plans on attending the University of Notre Dame to study medicine and to become a family physician.

His goal this year is to "end it with good grades." Too bad most don't have that same "underclassmen" attitude.

◆ JAMIE MCKENNEY

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER



Peri Willson
Jennifer Wilson
Keith Wilson
Miesha Wilson



Jill Wilusz
AnnMarie Wojcikiewicz
MaryAnn Woolsey
Jason Woolwine



Yvonne Woszczynski
Lori Wolell
Marqeo Wright
Nicholas Wright



Eric Xido
Jenny York
Jennifer Young
Nino Zamora



Cassy Zowacki
Tim Zencio
Amanda Zorich
Giovanni Zuzano



Farabaugh photo

◆ Determined to win, the freshmen powder puff team takes on the sophomores. In some dismay two upsets were pulled off in the annual competition. Not only did the class of '98 beat that of '97, but the juniors toppled the seniors as well.

Nora Ayulee
David Aimee
Faith Albee
Thomas Aliff
Amber Allaman
Kenny Allen
Jessica Andersen
Ma' Elen Andersen

Angelo Andreates
Yasmin Agente
Frank Arambula
Amanda Arque
Jamie Bailey
Brad Eskeland
Nick Eskeland
Matthew Bates

Jody Bane
Tim Eanham
Nathan Eanks
Ryan Easman
Emily Earnett
Tamara Eestly
Amber Beck
James Eengstrom

Jennifer Eerkman
Christina Eerry
Angela Eertelo
Lohman Eest
Ted Easley
Stacia Fish
Elizabeth Elbak
Joan Elcknell

Nicole Elendel
Valerie Eorenisa
Andrew Eowden
David Eoujen
Amber Erosden
Eckby Eranham
Algis Eredo
Nick Eresovan

Melissa Ertthers
Jeremiah Ereson
Melinda Ereson
Melissa Ereson
Stacey Ereson
Marc Eraner
Jeff Euehle
Amanda Euela

Christine Eudzielik
Steven Eurg
Fatie Eurdell
Erinlee Eurdle
Jason Eyres
Joanne Cole
Sarah Conery
Chris Camisa

Egan Campbell
Robert Carlson
Chris Celesti
Michael Cesare
Yana Ceskajev
Lorry Chandler
Melanie Chandler
Corby Clark

Matthew Clark
Melissa Clark
Eek Clark
Jason Cochran
Lena Cole
Nicole Cole
Randall Collins
Cora Colon



Natalie Conner
Cherese Connolly
Alex Coppinger
Michael Coughlin
Frank Courington
Ryan Crevision
Chris Cruz
Kelly Dahlen



Benja Dangneski
James Davis
Myasha Davis
Ryan Davis
Janell Deem
Feather Dempsey
Gregory DeShon
Dorin Derico



Ryan Derico
Chris Danstrell
Samantha Dittell
Megan Dixon
Janine Dobbs
Boopie Donski
David Downs
Susan Drebe



Brandon Dzunda
Chris Eadler
Aleka Fannocchella
Kevin Farnell
Faye Farnip
Rosal Farnice
Sean Farnice
Jennifer Faxes



Ashley Fides
David Fines
Frank Finkelson
Michael Finton
Joseph Farley
John Foshing
Gino Foster
Ned Fosh



Michael Frey
Michael Fihn
Marco Flores
Michelle Flores
Eari Foster
John Foster
Felix Fresh
Danny Frevert



Erin Frey
Sarah Frank
Pam Gabriel
Destinie Galloway
Erica Galloway
Cathy Gallimore
Kristen Gowan
Christina Granga



David

Who runs to Taco Bell before the beginning of ESPN's "Sportscenter"? It's none other than David Downs, '97, a.k.a. "Bubba." Downs is basically a funny guy, but he explains that he has a mean streak when he comes to certain people. Just stay out of his way and everything is okay. Everything he does, and the way he acts is what sets him apart from other people to be seen as an extraordinary person. Downs finds enjoyment in showing off any special talents he possesses, so there really isn't anything he can do that everyone hasn't already seen.

Downs comes from a fairly large family—especially considering that his parents are divorced. He has a stepmother, stepfather, three brothers, and a sister.

Although Bubba's favorite subject is geometry, he hasn't decided to become a geometry teacher, but would possibly like to pursue a career somewhere in the law field, such as a lawyer. Georgia and Michigan are his top college picks but, "Where I go to college will depend on what kind of scholarship offers I get," he states.

Downs is an active sports person who plays both basketball and football. Seventh grade was his first year in basketball, and of course he had to play since everyone else was. Downs believes that he only made the team because the coach was his neighbor. He thinks that he has made the team fairly every year after. A dream come true for Downs would be to play pro football. He does realize the odds are stacked against him, but everyone has to dream.

◆ JENNIFER BEWLEY

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be Better



Jonathan Garcia
Monica Garcia
Erene Garcia
Christopher Gurnee

Felly Gotton
Justin Gvar
Felly Gentry
Faren Gentry

Angela Gerasika
James Gull
Joseph Gierdane
Stanke Gligic

Charles Gonzalez
Deanna Gonzalez
Edwin Gonzalez
Nicolas Gonzalez

Islopa Goudou
Jack Grand
Juan Guapole
Elizabeth Guardiola

Joseph Guardiola
Amy Gutierrez
Jasen Hie
Robert Hille

Frank Hakarz
Nichole Hall
Richard Hamilton
Eric Hanson

Derrick Harprese
John Harms
Annette Harms
Brian Haussmann

KRISKO

maegan

She's multi-talented, multi-hobbled, and to top it all off, super nice too. She's Maegan Krisko, '97, and she's out to take on the world, or at least MHS. "I consider myself, loud, caring, sensitive, outgoing, and most importantly, cheerful. I feel that it is important and helpful to be so full of life, that way I can get through tough situations."

When she's not spreading her sunshine through out the halls of MHS, you'll often find her in one of MHS's swimming pools, practicing with the rest of the swim team. "I enjoy swimming because it's a sport and I get my share of exercise."



Swimming takes a lot of time and dedication to become better and succeed. When she's not at school, you can also

find her hanging at home with mom, Kathleen, and younger brother Patrick.

In any spare time she plays the flute, and loves to cook. Besides cooking, she loves to speak in public as well. Public speaking has helped her to perform better also, because another talent she possesses is that of acting. But more than just that, "I love kids and I love to babysit," comments Krisko. That will definitely prepare her for the future when she is married and has the three kids she is hoping for.

Other plans for the future include going to college and majoring in business. Krisko is uncertain about what type of business she will try, maybe a day-care center or even a restaurant, but she has plenty of time to plan later, right now she is just sitting back and enjoying the high school ride.

◆KIMBERLY ANDERSON

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

Kendra Henderson
Ellie Pennington
John Fildner
Barbara Fougland



Fathy Fiedel
Erleen Fiedmann
Michelle Fiegan
Donny Fiedelowski



Angelo Howard
Amy Howard
Loki Hughes
Crystal Hussey



Fosin Fialich
Peter Fiedow
Melissa Juchanowicz
Julie Jackson



Steve Jacobs
Tiffany Janaszewski
Evarione Jelenc
Joshua Jen



Kelley Jenkins
Sarah Jones
Eudrice Johnson
Jennifer Johnson



Ficky Johnson
Dimitry Jones
Shannon Jones
Jeremy Joselyn



Erin Joske
Sara Joveneski
Kelsiah Juske
Niki Kolesperis





Kristen Kopania
Paul Kosak
Mario Kossanis
Emmanuel Kozanis
David Koene
David Kofsky
Crystal Koppa
Cynthia Korney

Amanda Kirk
Justin Kissinger
Jim Klein
Narciso Kijala
Michael Kmetz
John Kollas
Sandra Koldziej
Auburn Koniarek

Erian Konicke
Faye Koppa
Daniel Kostas
Lucas Kora
Laura Korfelt
Morgan Kossido
Alan Kustric
Jaminia Lackey

Melissa Lair
Angela Lamb
Rebecca Lambert
Paul Lee
Shannon Lentz
Jennifer Lepley
Jaime Levitt
John Lind

Hillary Lipp
Heather Lohse
Krisandra Long
Faby Long
Alex Long
Richard Loring
Heather Lucille
Mirissa Lucvano

Erinina Malast
Gregory Mallory
Matthew Malocha
Lindsay Mandich
Steven Manning
Cadee Martinez
Elizabeth Maull
Rasheds Maxwell

Mark Mazany
Michelle Mc Alce
Christina Mc Conn
Erenzo Mc Feetheen
Shawn Mc Linn
Frank Mc Mullin
Polly Meeks
Lori Megyesi

Susan Meisler
Michelle Mendez
Joshua Micran
Tiffany Mierley
Joseph Mikal
Adam Milam
Guy Mikulich
Vicki Milic

Sarah Milonjovich
 Angie Miller
 Christopher Miller
 John Miller
 Eric Minton
 Marsh Mitchell
 Christopher Mies
 Michael Montemayor



Melba Montgomery
 Raymond Montgomery
 Nicole Moore
 Joe Moore
 Carly Morgan
 Jeff Morissey
 Jeffrey Mortensen
 Natalie Mote



Ben Murray
 Laura Murkash
 Nicole Myshkowski
 Michael Nalborczyk
 Fima Neely
 Stephanie Niclani
 Joshua Niedzwicki
 Leo Niebun



Polly Niergoda
 Natalie Niman
 Allen Noll
 Christy Ols
 Angela Oliver
 James Oliver
 Fran Oliva
 Jacqueline Ortiz



Marshall Pace
 Melissa Page
 Kimberly Palmatier
 Nicole Panopoulos
 Deven Parker
 Philby Parker
 Jaime Paulsen
 Max Pearson



Julius Penson
 John Pepsodi
 Edwin Poliquera
 Julianna Porras
 Michelle Perez
 Damien Perkins
 Kimberly Pero
 Shawn Peschke



Dana Peters
 Eriqan Phillips
 April Pieroni
 Michael Pierson
 Brandon Pletka
 Courtney Polakow
 Melissa Polakow
 Jennifer Pormak



Jennie Poyandja
 Devana Price
 Liane Price
 Carolina Proder
 Matt Putman
 Dustin Quenell
 Jennifer Rames
 Crystal Ramsey



BROWN melissa

She's kind, caring, and is always ready to lend an ear in concern for other people. Who is this girl? She's Melissa Ellon Brown. Brown explains that she cares more for other people's feelings than for her own. Brown goes out of her way to see that she doesn't hurt anyone's feelings, but if it does happen, she is sure to apologize. "In my friendships, I am the quiet one, but sometimes I can have quite a big mouth that can get me into trouble," she adds about her personality. She also explains that she can sometimes be a little spacey. Brown is a Girl Scout, and loves going to camp to be with her friends. Not only is she a fun loving person, but she's a rough, tough powder puff player.



Unfortunately, Brown's parents are divorced, which has separated her and her twin brother. Although she has been separated from her father and brother, she lives with her mother, her two sisters, and her grandfather. Brown's mother is paralyzed, but she hasn't let any of this darken her days.

What does the future hold for this caring young lady? Well, sometime within the next couple of school years, she would like to become homecoming queen or prom queen. After high school, Brown wants to attend college to become a physical therapist. She also stated, "I'd like to get married and someday have twins: one boy and one girl."

◆ JENNIFER BEWLEY

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

Bob Papadopoulos
Chad Kasper
Mike Fathburn
Megan Foberg

Cesar Focio
Akron Ford
Erin Keesee
Eugene Komenius

Micelle Richards
Joy Richardson
Wendy Fiddle
Lupin Fidevodi

Juliano Fialie
Michael Robbins
Patricia Robinson
Theresa Rodriguez

Jessika Fogers
Adam Foscos
Christina Kosenwinkler
Erion Kells

Joan Kularic
DeVan Lumpkin
Stephen Salcedo
Jessica Sanchez

Veronica Sanchez
Bill Sandelak
Fido Salasani
Justin Smith

Paula Schell
Mark Schreiner
Sean Scott
Shannon Scott

john

A hunk, a hunk of burnin' love"-that's what he is. Nicknamed "Elvis," John Miller, '97, is involved in many clubs including the academic super bowl, environmental club, and student government (after all, he is the class vice-president.) He loves playing varsity soccer as a defender, and the violin in the school's orchestra. But when it comes to his music preference, he listens to classical and alternative.



He has one brother, Jeff, who is in the seventh grade and attends Harrison, and Jacqueline, his sister, who attends Miller as a kindergarten. On his weekends he plays pool, attends basket-

ball games, goes to the movies, and does his homework. When asked about his most embarrassing moment he replied, "I don't have one." But don't let him fool you, just like any other, he's not immune to strange and often embarrassing incidents. He pointed out that the natural helps retreat was a really good experience from which he learned a lot.

John is planning on attending Notre Dame to become a high school or college teacher of biology. Miller was influenced by John Krysa in the eighth grade when Krysa unexpectedly collapsed on the football field and died. Johnny said he would like to, "make everyone realize how lucky most of us really are and help others who aren't so lucky."

◆ CANDICE PARKER

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

Amanda Szurlo
Sharon Sepich
Joshua Sessions
Patty Shapereff



Storey Shulick
Nichele Shultz
Christopher Sidich
Jennifer Silis



James Simanci
Derek Simpson
Maureen Skura
Lyon Smith



Chazara Smith
Farin Smith
Corie Snow
Amanda Sepke



Richard Sepke
John Spanos
Marie Spangla
Jason Spinks



Jennifer Springman
Heather Stanley
Kevin Stantonone
Michael Stahl



Joe Steeb
Keith Stechlecker
Mindy Steller
Jeremie Stephens



Kelly Stephens
T.J. Stedek
Zbyszek Sulski
Sarah Sumichrest





Amy Sul
Trisha Swenke
Kimberly Swiere
Jessica Swims
John Sealler
Susan Steel
Tanya Tellef
Adam Taylor

Felicia Taylor
Lisa Taylor
Sarah Taylor
Lynzi Testman
Jeffrey Thomas
Michael Thores
Eric Thomas
Mark Torres

Deanna Tracy
Jennifer Trappene
Cabrino Triplett
Jenny Trappene
Stephanie Valse
Jeff Van Vollenburgh
Douglas Vander Tuuk
Eric Vargas

Jessica Vargas
Al Vega
Chris Velazquez
Eckby Verbi
Matt Villanueva
Jeanine Visuse
Eugene Voo
Ruska Vronitski

Jennifer Vukon
Michael Walker
Selleq Wall
Emily Walls
Nick Wardell
Erlyne Wedding
Thomas Wellburg
Brandon Whitaker

Polly White
Evelinda Williams
Deshaun Williams
Stephanie Williams
Jason Willisen
Felix Willisen
Fathleen Wisniewski
Robert Wolf

Clifton Woods
Jodi Yamborski
Jamie Young
Mario Zairis
Felix Zak
Luke Zaklanski
Lakisha Zanders
Olivia Zdravski

Christopher Zeros
Alexandra Zeslanski
Robert Zimmerman
Paul Zeled

Joel Abraham
 Steve Adams
 Jason Aller
 Staci Allern
 Kevin Allers
 Michelle Alcala
 Willis Alexander
 Amy Armstrong



Sam Farnoldieris
 Scott Fane
 Rebecca Farnen
 Joel Faric
 Joe Farber
 Dustin Farnell
 Anthony Farsin
 Luncih Fawers



Robert Fecker
 Andrew Feilash
 Lisa Fees
 Danielle Feinley
 Joel Feinley
 Joe Fish
 Carmen Fenalla
 Erin Feucher



Ieresa Frigg
 Eric Brown
 Matthew Brown
 Ryan Brown
 Jeremiah Brown
 Christina Brucce
 Sean Buck
 Roy Buckley



Stephanie Fudzevski
 Tony Fuldando
 Nicole Fulkowski
 Victoria Furdell
 Tim Furtle
 Sarah Furl
 Jeff Fugel
 Amylie Canacho



Patricia Cantrell
 David Casted
 Jennifer Celms
 Chris Chirskid
 Charles Chung
 Stephanie Cichy
 Joseph Clemens
 Andrea Coates



Ryan Cellura
 Shaun Cole
 Matthew Coche
 Rich Coejer
 Andy Crane
 Erin Crawford
 Jon Cude
 Megan Cutler



Becky Daney
 Chris De Mare
 Brian De Young
 Fish Deel
 Melissa Evans
 Damien Exrice
 Peter Liffice
 Bryan Dixon



METROS Jimmy

Watching *Home Improvement* and listening to the Beastie Boys is what James Dean Metros, '96, enjoys most. If you don't recognize him as James Dean, how does Jimmy or even "Phonics" sound? These are two names that he is preferably known as.

Metros is best described as crazy, nutty, and silly. He has a personality that sets him apart from most people. He classifies himself as not being a follower.

Metros has high hopes for the future. He

is looking forward to a career as an FBI agent. Before this happens, Metros would like to attend Indiana University, Bloomington and continue his studies.

The athletic part of him is seen in two different sports. He is kept busy by participating in tennis and track. Commenting on tennis and the reason behind his involvement, Jimmy arrogantly states, "I play because I'm great!" Track, on the other hand, simply keeps him in shape during the off-season of tennis. But he openly admits to tennis being his sport of choice.

In general, as far as MHS goes, Metros would like an open campus. Of course he doesn't mind waiting in line when the cafeteria is serving his favorite food, pizza, or any other pasta for that matter. Another change Metros feels is necessary is to have a longer passing period. The six minutes is just not enough time for him to get to class.

◆NANCY PACHOWSKI



Vincent Deneshi
Robert Deneshi
Jennifer Dwyer
Michelle Dunall

Jason Dzunda
David Eaton
Robert Eaton
Sarah Edwards

Rachel Elliott
Janelle Ellison
Richard Escobedo
Matt Espinosa

Pike Evans
Telles Evans
Bill Fairbroim
Tony Ferguson

Eoger Fleming
Rob Flores
Sarah Folt
Eric Foster

Joe Foster
Dawn Fox
Paul Francis
Marlin France

John Franz
Melissa Freeman
Jill Frye
Jennifer Gabriel

Dave Gallops
Lori Garbus
Joan Garbus
Christina Garpane

CUEN'S
Possibly
Be BETTER

ALCALA michelle

She's funny, crazy and she's like no one you have ever met. Who is this amazing gal? It's Michelle Alcala, '96. Alcala is a junior at MHS and has gone to Merrillville schools all her life. Her opinion of MHS is, "Most of the staff and teachers are great, but the atmosphere stinks." Alcala has decided to move to England and attend art school after graduation. To go along with that, she really enjoys doing special effects make-up and sculpture. She has a very unique style of



dress. "I look different because it's what I believe in. I'm not a bad person and I'm not as mean as everyone thinks. If everyone would just give the people that look different a chance, I'd

bet they'd be surprised."

Alcala is a very inspiring person with a lot of strong beliefs. She is definitely someone who likes just being herself. To her that is important. Michelle is sometimes known as a tough person to get to know, but if people would just sit down and have a conversation with her, they would see what strong beliefs she has. She loves to voice her opinion and to be heard even more. But over all she is a sweet, understanding person who has a very bright future. Maybe one day some of Alcala's art will be found in public museums and art shows. The river runs deep through Michelle Alcala. She concludes with this powerful statement, "Only trust in your beliefs, for that is all you have that cannot be taken away. If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

◆ SARAH BURT

COUNCIL
Possibly
Be BETTER

Gerardo Garza
Teresa Garza
David Gearheard
Stacie Gentry



Jennifer Gilbert
Eric Gill
Melissa Glorioso
Zach Goetz



Adrienne Gonzalez
Pats Gonzalez
Morgan Gray
Josh Gross



Mark Grubbs
Steve Gruenewald
Nicole Guernsey
Ryan Guernsey



Alicia Gunn
Kelly Gut
Ebbie Guy
Tina Guzik



Steven Guzman
Matt Hagey
Eric Hall
David Hammer



Gina Hampton
Joanna Harbeck
Jill Harms
David Harvey



Chris Hathaway
Robert Heath
Jill Hendricks
Clifton Henry





Fionnne Henry
 Erica Hiett
 Nick Hillhouse
 Melissa Hilgeman
 Curtis Hill
 Tanya Hill
 Tim Holdeman
 Marc Helm

Nikki Helm
 James Hong
 Joseph Horst
 Jamie Hsieh
 Jason Hsieh
 Cliff Hughes
 Jeremy Hummel
 Chris Huttile

Tammy Iathione
 Michelle Janiszewski
 Ben Jarvis
 Dana Jefferson
 Dianna Jenkins
 Joe Jenkins
 Rebecca Jenkins
 Judy Jennings

Jason Jeraul
 Martin Johnson
 Jason Jeske
 Shannon Jeske
 Eric Jester
 Stefen Jevanovic
 Anthony Juske
 Mark Kaiser

David Kamano
 Marie Kaminski
 Lisa Kaneuse
 Paul Kanas
 Sarah Keithcart
 Jessica Keehn
 Kevin Keighley
 Aubrey Kelley

Harriette Kelly
 Debbie Fung
 Tim Funtz
 Joshua Farby
 David Farklen
 Richard Fright
 William Feldus
 Robert Fomer

Jamie Fomenda
 David Foorch
 Michael Fostelink
 Keith Fragowski
 Melinda Frecski
 Tricia Fuhn
 Marly Funtz
 Kelly La Eente

Aaron La Plante
 Ben Lach
 Jeremiah Loyalo
 Corey Lake
 Penny Lange
 Jillian Lape
 Josh Larsen
 Rick Larson

Ami Lash
Ilja Lazeski
Henry Lech
Scott Lee
Angela Lehman
Aaron Lewis
Danny Lewis
Nick Lile



Max Liptak
Tim Little
Pam Lelody
Jason Lockhart
Robert Long
David Lopez
Erel Macaluso
Eith Macy



Monique Maj
Dave Maldonado
Ann Marie Malec
Aaron Malerich
Lisa Malo
Jason Malocha
Paul Mandich
Melissa Manglovic



Megan Mancosi
Michelle Marcam
John Marelich
Kristen Marler
Jonathan Marlow
Eric Martin
Philip Martin
Robert Martinez



Keith Mashburn
Sean F. McConnell
Sean W. McConnell
Misty Mc Corg
Steve Mc Farland
Keith Mc Indoo
Karen Mc Fay
Bill Mc Fee



Jamie Mc Kenney
Bill Meerna
Amy Meissler
Nicole Mekic
Marnel Melendez
Jim Melros
Richard Mero
Julie Milk



Brandon Millard
Jason Miller
Ryan Miller
Sonja Mitchell
Jason Michei
Kelli Moore
Chris Moreski
Linda Myniewicz



Scott Mlytk
Brian Neely
Brandon Nelson
Claudia Neri
Alex Nebeski
Shawn Newman
Favin Newlen
Matt Nicholas





Hayley Niles
Jason Novakovich
Jennifer Nowak
Erik Obregon



Kim Onoff
Carla Ortega
Adam Oze
Becky Paine



Maria Popodakis
Anna Popolazanos
Sarah Porelun
Candice Parker



Michelle Parker
Samantha Parker
Brett Parks
Lori Pansopoulos



Tanya Paul
Stephanie Peek
Megan Pendley
Christina Petersen



Marie Petrala
Christine Pierce
Frank Pimentel
Melissa Plante



Jason Poderski
Melissa Potts
Erinquette Pouschak
April Prutcher



Kevin Prouss
Jennifer Price
Rachel Price
Ronda Price

BROWN

As a second baseman of the MHS baseball team Matt Brown has an attitude that everybody on the team should have. Matt says, "The game of baseball is more than a game. When you go out on the field, the other team is your enemy. If you don't go in with that attitude you have already lost."

Enemies are one thing that Matt Brown seems to lack. "I have much respect for my

teammates because most of them are my friends." Besides having a goal to win the state championship his "ultimate goal in life is to impact a few people's lives and hopefully make them better people. That is why I am interested in becoming a teacher and a coach."



"I think the meaning in life is to help the ones that will follow in our footsteps. Being a teacher makes that possible." Helping people is what Matt Brown is determined to do.

This baseball player with a "very unique personality" has the ability to make you laugh or smile at anytime. "Most people can't predict what I am going to do next."

"The real me can be seen on the field." As Matt takes baseball seriously, he takes life one day at a time. This '96 graduate is dedicated as a result he "makes most of the plays defensively." As for the '95 baseball season Matt hopes to advance to state.

◆ TRACY PARKER

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

MELENDZ

Referred to by her friends as "Mari," Marisol Melendez is an individual as exceptional as her name. Mari is skilled in fields ranging from singing and dancing to modeling and acting. She utilizes these talents partly by singing in the all-girls show choir and modeling both for Southlake Mall and through an agent in Chicago. Mari also takes jazz and ballet dance classes, but prefers ballet because it is "the root of all other dances and it teaches you to be graceful."



Mari enjoys listening to almost all types of music, and names pizza as her favorite food. Her special talents include being ambidextrous, knowing how to read and write in Hebrew, and playing baseball with her male cousins. Mari has also had

some unusual experiences, including an attempt at horizontal bungee jumping and being given a personal invitation to a performance by the famous magician David Copperfield.

Mari transferred to Merrillville High School from Andean. She made the switch primarily because "they were strict about a lot of things that didn't really matter." Mari enjoys the learning environment at Merrillville High School more and finds her new teachers "more involved" with teaching. Despite the fact that she prefers to attend MHS, Mari still keeps in touch with her "Andean friends."

Mari's family consists of her sister Theresa, '95, three half-sisters, and a half-brother. In the future, Mari plans to go to college and major in "anything in the entertainment business." She plans on attending a state university for her first two years of college, then hopes to finish in Miami, Texas, or Florida. Another goal Mari has set is to grow to at least 5'9" because that's "the perfect height for modeling."

◆IRENE MAKIAS

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER



Paul Drusin
Joe Duschnik
Mike Fodchuk
Carmen Ramirez



Bryan Ramos
Jeffrey Rangeloff
Anthony Reddis
Jason Reed



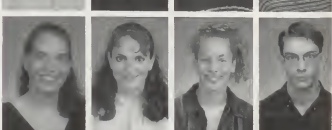
Kristal Renehan
Lynn Reyes
Ananda Richardson
Jason Ricio



Diele Riddile
Ewa Ries
Jason Rivera
Karen Robello



Ananda Ross
Michael Rothberg
Lindsay Ruesch
Margaret Runion



Pamela Ruschak
Maggie Sisson
Jamie Santelme
Brian Schaefer



Travis Schmidt
Bradley Schulte
Jeremy Schwandt
Tyquane Scott



Brennan Seydel
Tayana Shodwick
Monica Shaffer
Heather Showwer



Aaron Shellen
Solomon Shih
Matthew Siecker
Theresa Siwers
Corey Simmons
Andrea Simpson
Jason Simpson
Carl Sims

Melissa Skratky
Germel Smith
Jaime Smith
Brian Snelton
Amy Soperick
Sandra Sels
Eric Sewell
Natalie Speller

Eric Stage
Jill Stamale
La'Shona Stanley
Thomas Stanzione
Angelo Stasinski
Marlee Stith
Melissa Stefanski
John Stenger

Bryan Stone
Sean Strebbling
William Summar
Cristy Summers
Matthew Sur
Jared Tabor
Lisa Taylor
Tracy Taylor

Aurilia Tejada
Theresa Terry
William Thomas
Erin Thompson
Kelly Thorn
Jessica Tabor
Maria Trojkev
Matt Trojkevski

Kristy Trock
Rachel Turbfill
Angelina Turloeski
Michael Trybles
Teddy Umphress
Christina Underwood
Kelly Utchis
Ryan Valentine

Lisa Van Eerq
Rachel Vanderwarf
Teula Vasileopoulos
Marc Vassallo
Mike Villanueva
Jason Vlasse
Nigel Wallen
Daniel Wenskesky

Jason Wayne
Kelly Wecker
Scott Willetst
Sarah Wesley
Corey West
Felso Wiggins
Christal Williams
Paxton Williams

RIDDLE

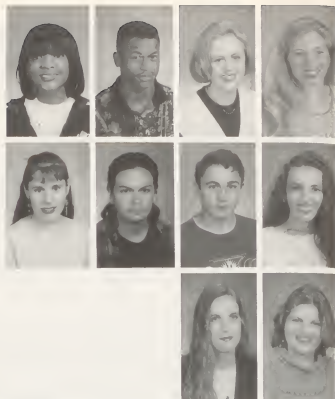
With her athletic ability and energetic attitude towards life, Dede Riddle is well on her way to fulfilling her major goal in life. This goal is to play volleyball as well as Angela Kirby, the number one beach volleyball player in the womens division. Riddle enjoys playing all kinds of sports, but most of all, she enjoys playing volleyball. As Riddle states, "I would love to play as well Kirby." Riddle, who for the past five years has been in volleyball, is presently a part of the varsity team, finds the sport "Quite exciting!" Not only is she active in volleyball, but she also plays on the varsity basketball team, where she has been playing for five years. Although she enjoys both sports, her

true love is volleyball. "It keeps me in physical and mental shape and every player is active during the game." With four brothers and sisters already graduated from college, Riddle now shares the household with brothers Wally and Jimmy, both attending a nearby middle school, and sister Wava '97. When Riddle finds free time, which isn't too often due to the amounts of practice she has, she enjoys hanging out with her two best friends, Rhonda and Racheal Price, '96, by going to the movies and to the mall. Riddle likes to listen to the tunes of REM and the Cranberries. She also enjoys spending hours talking on the phone.

If Dede had one wish, it would be to grow a little taller. She states, "I don't like having people look down to find me." But if her height were as big as her aspirations, she would be up in the clouds by now.

◆ LAURIE WORTOWICZ

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER



Samantha Williams
Terence Williams
Megan Wojciechowski
Alyssa Wright

Angela Wasik
Eric Youngren
Jennifer Zakutinsky
Tania Zdzewski

Rebecca Zerich
Christine Zerich



Fairborough photo

◆ Krystal Fenech, '96, tries desperately to catch the ball during a powder puff practice. The juniors lepped the seniors in a grudge match that has been going on for years.

◆ Showing his spirit, Dave Janda, '98, shouts out during the first all-sports pep rally. Student Government sponsored the huge event.



Fairborough photo

Underclass Not Pictured

Amber Allen, '06
Cunten Allen, '08
Ming Furlano, '06
Eric Foyen, '06
Franky Front, '06
Justin Ercan, '08
Irene Ercan, '06
Yekelyah Ercan, '07
Colleen Engle, '07
Stephanie Euland, '08
Robert Furlan, '08
Priscilla Gault, '06
Eugene Gimbalevich, '06
Eugene Gimbalevich, '08
April Gock, '06
Fani Gualita, '07
Andreana De Jesus, '07
Greg Guebara, '07

D'Andre Duvette, '06
David Dicks, '08
Doug Eldridge, '07
Janae Flenz, '06
Patricia Flenz, '08
Pedro Figueroa, '07
Angel Funches, '06
Josh Gray, '06
Roy Greene, '06
Priscilla Grace, '06
Eric Greene, '08
Shawn Guapera, '06
Robert Gutierrez, '06
James Haley, '08
Dimitrios Farkness, '06
Fani Hayes, '07
Fani Hayes, '08

Chris Fieligan, '08
Trevor Finnington, '06
Mike Fipburn, '08
Angela Flocks, '07
Chenell Jackson, '07
Cindy Jakulin, '08
Roger Johnson, '06
Felipe Jones, '06
Michael Johnson, '06
Nikola Johnson, '08
Doris Johnson, '08
Sarah Johnson, '07
Erinell Kelly, '08
Janet Kelly, '06
Angela Kramiec, '07
Jason Lee, '07
Damian Lee, '08
Robert Lewis, '07
John Logothetis, '06
Dwaine Lohman, '08
Richard Lohman, '06
Sara Lullman, '06
Melissa Lytle, '08
Kevin Madison, '07
Andrew Maggie, '08
Alex Malinovich, '08
George Mallory, '08
Nicholas Marchak, '06

Scott Meyer, '08
DeMonte Millard, '08
Margann Mirevski, '08
Jennifer Modisette, '08
Christopher Murray, '08
Sam Olshe, '06
Brian Paine, '08
Ted Parham, '08
Frank Pate, '07
Tony Pratt, '08
Gregory Patterson, '06
William Phillips, '06
Lorance Pincus, '06
Stephanie Pincus, '07
Shawn Pincus, '06
James Pincus, '08
Douglas Pincus, '07
Peter Rodriguez, '06
Chris Sanchez, '08
Jacob Santarone, '08
Cristian Santos, '06
Greg Saxton, '07
David Sherman, '08
Fani Sherwood, '06
Nathan Slicks, '07
David Slobodkin, '06
Stephanie Sloan, '07
Allen Smith, '07

Elly Smith, '06
Melodie Smith, '06
Paul Staniewski, '07
Michael Staniewski, '08
Amy Stoklosa, '07
Fani Stoklosa, '08
Cheryl Smyke, '08
Mike Stupen, '07
Jeremy Sutherland, '08
John Szallor, '07
Erick Taylor, '08
Dwain Thomas, '07
Brian Tessing, '07
Antonius Tones, '07
Chris Velazquez, '07
Jesus Villareal, '08
Stanley Viles, '07
Jason Vines, '08
Stephanie Wagner, '08
Jean Walker, '07
Nikki Weigel, '07
Timmy White, '08
Anthony Whitehead, '08
Roger Wilson, '08
Dwain Wood, '08
Kerianne Wood, '08
Fani Young, '07



Farabough photo

◆Fading down Broadway, the Sycamore Class means their float during the annual Homecoming parade. The seniors took first in the float competition.

JULY J. ADAMS-Chief 9; CWC 11; CWC officer 11; Homecoming Court (Football) 11; Parade 11; Powder Puff 11, 12; Prom Court 11; C/S 11, 12; Focus 12; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11; WMIS 11; Producer 12; F/S 11, 12; Pom-poms 9, 10, 11; MICHAEL DAVID ADAMS, THAD AGUE.

ARTHUR AGUIRRE, HEMPHIL ANDERSON-Cheerleading 11, 12; CFC 12; CWC 11, 12; FFA 12; Pump Up the Volume 12; F/S 11, 12; Pom-poms 9; Prom Committee 11; C/S 11, 12; Student Government 9, 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11; WMIS 11, 12; Yearbook 11, 12.

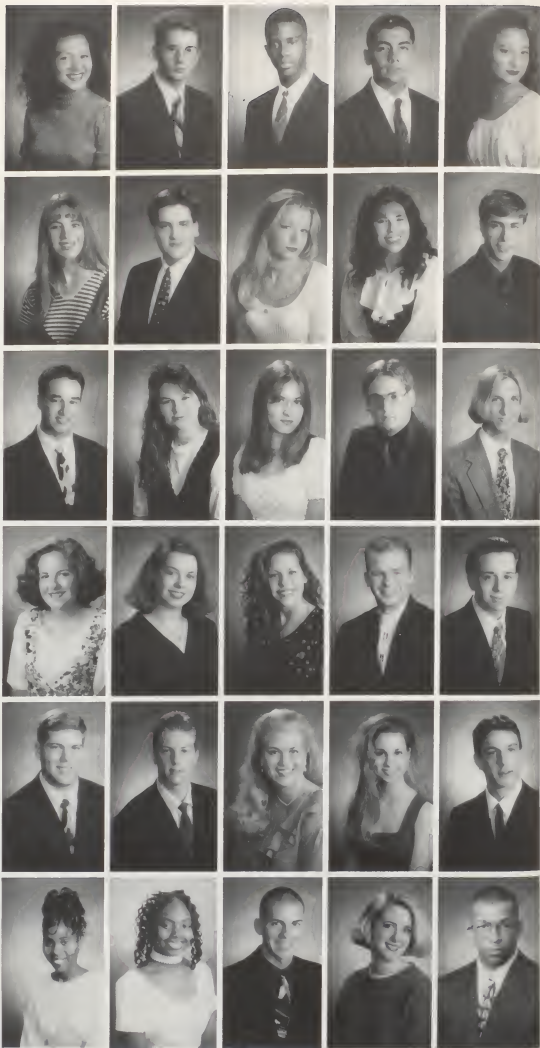
JAMIL ALBIN-SJS 9, 10; Powder Puff 11, 12; Track 9, 10, 11; Football Manager 11, 12; FRAGC FABIC-Football 9; FRAGC FABIC-Chief 9, 10; Fag Club 10, 11; SJS 9; N/S 10, 11, 12; Pom-poms 9; Captain 9; Track 9; MCNICAGLE ERIKA Z-Office Aide 12; Powder Puff 10; Spanish Club 11; Volleyball 9; TAVIS W. BARNFIELD.

JUNIOR BALDWIN-Football 9, 11, 12; JAMIL BALDWIN, JESSIE BASTIA 12; JAS BARNETT-Cheerleading 12; Football 9; FLECO 12; SAMUEL NICHOLAS BARNETT-Chief 9, 10, 11, 12; SJS 9, 10; N/S 11, 12; Natural Helpers 10, 11, 12.

DALE BARNETT-Drama Club 11; JAMIE ANNETTE BARNETT-Chief 9, 10, 11, 12; FFA 12; SJS 9, 10; N/S 11, 12; Pom-poms 9, 11, 12; JAMIE BARTZ, JONATHAN BARTZ, DAVID NICHOLAS BELLER-Tennis 9, 10.

JASON BEEK, BEATRICE BERNARD, JENNIFER BEWLEY-FFA 12; N/S 11; Newspaper 9; Office Aide 10; Pom-poms 9, 10, 11; Captain 12; Prom Committee 11; Yearbook 12; VANESSA BILAWSKI-Spanish Club 12; Student Government 12; Track Manager 11; Track 10, 12; ERIK BLACK, CHENETTE BLANCHET-Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Chief 9, 10, 12; Fall Play 9, 10; French Club 10, 11, 12; N/S 9, 10; N/S 11, 12; Natural Helpers 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Focus 10, 12; Show Choir 12; Speech Team 12; Track 10.

CHELSE J. BLACKWELL-Office Aide 10; STEPHEN BLOCH-S-Football 9; Football 9, 10, 11; Office Aide 12; SHILLY BLOCH-FFA-Football 9, 10; Pom-poms 9; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Court Officer 11, 12; SAE 10; Student Government 9, 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 10, 11, 12; Tennis 10, 11, 12; Volleyball 9, 10; THOMAS BLOCH-S-Class President 12; CFC 12; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; JETS 10, 11, 12; N/S 9; N/S 11; Office 12; Spanish Club 12; SAE 10; Student Government 12; Track 10, 11, 12.





STACY ECKENHAUS 9; Pom-pom 9; Powder Puff 11; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; LANCE ECKMAN 12; ELLIE ECKENHAUS 9; HEC 12; Pom-pom 9; Yearbook 12.



MICHELLE ECKENHAUS 9; J.C. 11, 12; CFC 12; ITA 12; Elby Corps 10; Pom-pom 9, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12; MISSA ELLIE ECKENHAUS 9; J.C. 11, 12; Drama Club 11, 12; Fall Play 11, 12; Jazz Imped 10, 11, 12; MCAT 12; NJS 9; NJS 10, 11, 12; Fosse 11, 12; Spring Musical 11, 12; SAC 12; Therapies 11, 12; Volleyball 9; STEVE ELLIE ECKENHAUS 12.



RICHARD ECKENHAUS 9; German Club 9, 10, 11; NJS 9, 10; NJS 11, 12; Swimming 10, 11, 12; PAUL ECKENHAUS 9; YOLANDA ECKENHAUS 9.



SARA ECKENHAUS 9; J.C. 9; NJS 9; NJS 10, 11, 12; Soccer 12; DAWN ECKENHAUS 9; J.C. 11, 12; Basketball 9; NJS 9; NJS 10, 11; Pom-pom 9; Pom-pom Captain 9; Soccer 10, 11, 12; GINA ECKENHAUS 9; HEC 12.



SHANNON ECKENHAUS 9; Spring Musical 11; Teacher's Aide 12; Yearbook 12; JAMIE ECKENHAUS 9; Art Club 12; LAURA ECKENHAUS 9; Spanish Club 12; Student Government 12.



FAITH ECKENHAUS 9; MEAC 12; Office Aide 10, 11, 12; Pom-pom 9, 10, 11; Spanish Club 10; Swimming 9, 10, 11; Captain 12; Teacher's Aide 10; Pom-pom Queen (Football) 12; CHEISTIA ECKENHAUS 9; Football 9, 10; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; JASON ECKENHAUS 12.

ADAMS

Besides trying to lead PNN, into a successful second year, Judy Adams, '95, somehow finds the time to also be involved with Student Government, Quill and Scroll, the honor society for high school journalists, WMHS club, and karate. But wait, that's not all this dedicated student has found time for. Adams also sets aside every Friday afternoon to go to Channel 56 and work in telecommunications, since it's her career of choice. After all that, somehow she still makes time for her family, all three sisters and



two brothers! Not to mention hanging with Randy Brant, '96, who happens to be one of her best friends as well as her brother-in-law. Who else could do all this? There may be no other.

"Bootie," or so her friends call her, openly admits wanting to be an anchor for TV news and feels proud that she received the anchor of the year award at the first annual PNN awards. But she doesn't seem so candid when it comes to the bloopers she always ends up starring in. "They even included the time I was doing the weather in front of a blank chroma key screen!" she embarrassingly states. Whether it is at home, school, or even work, it seems that Adams has time for anything!

♦PATRICK FARABAUGH

CULLEN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

Blacknell



Along with this, her favorite subject is choir, and her favorite teacher is choir director Roger Emig.

Referred to by her friends as "Netta," she has a unique personality that sets her apart from others. Blacknell feels that she has herself well analyzed. She admits, "I know what I want and go for it. I have a high self-esteem." This is one of her best qualities. After completing her high school education, her plans are to attend college in New York. Her goal is to be an interpreter with an emphasis on multiple languages. Blacknell also jokingly states one of her other goals, "To have a family with a famous NBA star, but I could settle for a pro-football player."

One important message Blacknell would like to leave is, "You have to love yourselves before you feel you are qualified to be loved. Respect, honesty, and appreciation of yourself and others is a nice way to begin."

◆ **NANCY PACKOVSKI**

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

JAMIE CHILRESS - Cheer 3; Powder Puff 1C, 1B; Soccer Captain 12; Spanish Club 11, 12; SALT 1C; Football Manager 11, 12; Sunshine Society 1C, 1B; Officer 12; Yearbook Editor 9; JACF MICHAEL CF 11, 12; A-Esball 11, 12; Cheerleading 12; Football 3; Track 9, 10, 11, 12;

WALTERS CUNNEE - Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Soccer 9, 10, 11; Captain 12; Teacher's Aide 1C, 1D; Track 12;

ANGELICA NICOLA - Choir, Officer 12; CTC 12; Drama Club 9, 10, 11; Officer 12; Fall Play 1C; French Club 11, 12; 11S 11, 12; 11S 11, 12; Officer 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Powder Puff 11, 12; Prom Committee 11; French 1C, 1D; Speech Team 1C; Spring Musical 9; SAC 12; Student Government 11, 12; Tennis 1C, 11, 12; Hespans 11, 12;

SAMANTHA CCHAGAS - Teacher's Aide 12; Soccer 1C; Spanish Club 12; Student Government 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Track 12; FHFV CCUGHS - Spanish Club 9; Speech Team 9; SALT 9, 10, 11; Football Manager 11, 12;

AMAMCKEASALUM - Esball 9, 10, 11, 12; Football 1C, 1B; Football 9; MICHELLE'S;

THIC CULP - Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Cheer 9, 10, 11, 12; Foreman's Club 1C, 1B, 11, 12; French Club 1C, 11, 12; Golf 9, 10; Captain 11, 12; FNS 12; Show Cheer 11, 12; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12; Vocal Teams 11;

MICHAEL CURRIEL - Ford 9; Football 11, 12; Prom-pom 11; WMS 11;

AMY CHILRESS - JENNIFER A. DANTON - Cheer 9, 10, 11, 12; Drama Club 1C; Officer 11, 12; Fall Play 11, 12; 11S 11, 12; Powder Puff 1C; Soccer 1C, 1B; Science Olympiad 11, 12; Speech Team 9, 10, 11; Spring Musical 1C, 11, 12; Student Government 1C; Teacher's Aide 12; Hespans 1C; Officer 11, 12;

JANIELA LAMAS - SALT and 9; Esball 9, 10; MICHAEL 12; 11S 11, 12; 11S 11, 12; C and Club 11; Soccer 11; Spanish Club 11, 12; SAC 12;

KEITH LAMAR - Drama Club 1C, 11, 12; Fall Play 1C; FTAC; German Club 9, 10; 11S 11, 12; NFL 10, 11, 12; Esball Esball 11, 12; FNS 11; Foreman's 12; Speech 9, 10, 11, 12; Spill Pool Team 11; Spring Musical 1C; Student Government 1C, 1B; Super Esball Academic Team 1C, 12; Hespans 10, 11, 12;

ALFRED LAMAR - Ford 9, 10, 11; 11S 12; 11S 12; 11S 11, 12; Our Ford Team 12;

FINTELECS - Orchestra 9, 10, 11, 12; Score 9, 10;

ANGELICA MARTE - FHFV L. DEBICC - Esball 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12;





KEVIN LYUNG

MILAN DUTCH-Woodlark 10, 11;
SUMMER DUCHEN-Cl-C 12; Cheer 9; FFA 10, 12; Pom-pom
10, 12; From Committee 11; Spanish Club 10, 12; Officers 11; Student
Government 12; Teacher's Aide 12.
LISA BILCH-FT-Academic Decathlon Team 12; French Club
10, 11, 12; NHS 9; NHS 11, 12; Powder Puff 11, 12; Quiz Bowl Team
11, 12; Track 11; Volleyball 9, 10; Yearbook 9.
JEFF DEBES-End 9, 10; Games Club 12.

KYLE DEBIECH

MISSAGENE DEBIS-FA 10, 11, 12; Golf 9, 10, 11, 12; MPAC
12; Powder Puff 12; Quist Club 10, 12; Spanish Club 10; Teacher's Aide
12.
PAUL DEBIECH-DMEE-CWSKY-Cheerleading 9; French Club
9, 10, 11, 12; NHS 11; Powder Puff 12; Swimming 9, 10, 11;
Teacher's Aide 12.
MARLYSE DUMCPA
JENNY DUPLAG-A-Cheer 9, 10; Environmental Club 10, 11, 12;
German Club 10, 11, 12; Officer 11; Freq Club 10, 11, 12; NHS 9; NHS
11, 12; Quiz Bowl Team 11, 12; Soccer Manager 10, 12; Teacher's Aide 12.

DUDELLIZONDC-Builder's Club 9; CPC 12; FFA 10; Flag Corps
10; NHS 9; NHS 11, 12; Powder Puff 11, 12; C-SS 12; Spanish Club 10, 11;
Officer 12; Yearbook 12.
ANGELIA LILIC-IT-CPC 12; FFA 12; Newspaper 12; Office Aide 11;
FNS 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; From Committee 11; Teacher's Aide 9, 10, 11, 12;
Track 11, 12; WMHS 12; Yearbook 11, 12.
MATT ELLIS-MCAH 11; FNS 11, 12; Speech Team 11; Student Government
12; WMHS 11, 12.
KEVIN ELSN-Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12; Cheer 9; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; JETS 9;
FAs, Football 12; Morning Announcer 12; From Court 11; Track 9, 10, 11, 12.
YVONNE ESCOTT-End 9, 10, 11, 12; FFA 12; Flag Corps 10, 11; Captain
12; Flag Club 10; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12.

TELLA EZZIL

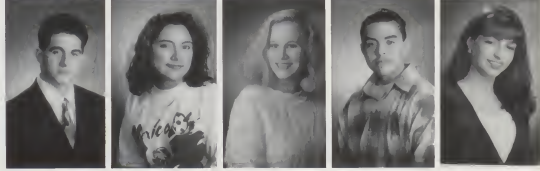
JASNY FALZINSKI
JENNY FALZINSKI-Freq Club 11, 12.
JAMIE FANTIN-Builder's Club 9; Orchestras 9, 10, 11, 12.
PATRICIA FARMER-AP-AL-GF-Cheer 9, 10, 11, 12; CWC 11;
Officer 11; FFA 11; FNS 2000 12; Newspaper 11, 12; Parade Fudge 11, 12;
FNS 11, 12; From Committee 11; Pump Up the Volume 12; C-SS 11;
Secretary 12; From 10; SAC 11; Spring Musical 11; Student Government
9, 10, 11, 12; Officer 11; President 12; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; Yearbook 9, 11;
Editor-in-Chief 12.

BEETHEFER-Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12; Cheer 9;
Debate 9; Foremaning Freq (Basketball) 12; MPAC 12; Quist Club
11, 12; Officer 11; Student Government 11, 12.
SARAH FELLINS-CL-Cheer 9; FFA 12; Golf 9, 10, 11, 12; Powder Puff
12.
JESSICA GULEC-AF-AF and 9, 10, 11; Basketball 10; Cross Country
9, 10, 11, 12; FNS 11; From Court 11; From 11; Track
9, 10, 11, 12.
GEORGEY FLEMING
MATT FLICHER

MINDIE MARIE FOLEY

HEANNE FOLEY-Academic Decathlon Team 12; End 9, 10, 12;
Environmental Club 10, 11, 12; Flag Corps 12; German Club 10; Officer
11, 12; Jazz Impact 10, 11, 12; Freq Club 10, 11, 12; NHS 9; NHS 11, 12;
Soccer Manager 10, 11; Teacher's Aide 12.
PATHEYS JAST FOLKMAN-End 9, 10; Basketball 9, 10; Soccer
12; Track 9, 10, 11, 12; Student Treasurer 10, 11, 12; Volleyball 9, 10.
LUCYVA FORTHELL-SHANELL FRANCIS-Debate 10, 11.
ELAN T. FRANCIS-Art Club 9; Spanish Club 10, 11; Student
Government 10, 11.

MARIANNA ERANGO'S-Choir 9; Pom-pom 9; Powder Puff 10,11,12; Spanish Club 10; Student Government 10,11;
 SUSAN FREENCH-Choir 9; PHS 11; Powder Puff 10,11; CSS 11;
 President 12; WYMS 11; Yearbook 11,12;
 CARLOS FREVERT-Base 9,10,11,12; Jazz Impact 12; JETS 12;
 NHS 11,12; Spanish Club 12;
 LEAH MARAT FINK-Basketball 9,10,11; Choir 9,10,11,12; FCA 12;
 FFA Officer 12; Homecoming Queen (Football) 12; PHS 11,12; Pom-pom 9;
 Powder Puff 12; Prom Queen 11; Quilt Club 11; Focus 10,11,12; Show
 Choir 10,11,12; Softball 9,10,11,12; Spanish Club 11;
 Student Government 12; Soccer Manager 12; Vocal Team 12;
 CYNTHIA LEE CROSTHER-10,11,12; FHEC 12; Fog Club 10;
 Powder Puff 9,10,11,12; Spanish Club 11; Teacher's Aide 10,11;



ALEX GALIC-Choir 9,10; Debate 11; NHS 9; NHS 10,11,12;
 SIMONE GALIC;
 CYNTHIA GARCIA-Base 9,10,11,12; Environmental Club 10;
 Homecoming Court (Basketball) 12; Spanish Club 10,11,12; Speech Team
 10; SAC 12; Student Government 10,11,12; Volleyball 9,10,11;
 GABRIELA GARCIA-NHS 11,12; Spanish Club 9,10;
 RAQUEL GARCIA-Builders Club 9; Drama Club 10; Spanish Club
 10,11,12; Spanish Club Officer 11,12; SADD 10,11;
 Student Government 12;

TOMMY C. GASPARDSON-Base 9,10,11,12; Drama Club 11;
 HERO 12; Focus 10; SADD 9,10,11,12;
 AMY J. GERUSAMPAC 12; Newspaper 11,12; PHS 11,12; CSS
 11; Officer 12; SADD 11,12; Track 9,10,11,12; WMF 11,12; Yearbook 12;
 DENISE GILLEY-Eudora's Club 9; Debate 9,10; Drama Club 9; Fall
 Play 9; French Club 9,10,11; Newspaper 9; Office Aide 11; SAC 9;
 Student Government 9; Tennis 9;
 LENA E. GILLILAN-Choir 9,10,11,12; Newspaper 12; Show Choir 12;
 JESSICA MARIE GONZALEZ-Art Club 11,12; CWC 11,12; Pom-pom
 9; Teacher's Aide 11,12;

CHARLES GOIN;
 DAVID GONZALES-Art Club 12; Office Aide 12;
 CHEERLEADER GONZALEZ-Base 9; Class Secretary 11,12; CFC
 12; Cross Country Captain 11; Drama Club 9; Fall Play 9; NHS 9;
 NHS 11,12; Speech Teams 10,11,12; Student Government
 10,11,12; Tennis 9,10,11,12; Theopians 9; Yearbook 9;
 GLORIA MARIE GONZALEZ-Choir 9,10; Teacher's Aide 12;
 JENNIFER GONZALEZ-Spanish Club 12; Swimming 12;
 Volleyball 10, 11;

PAW GOOD-Choir 9,10,11,12;
 AVANDA GOODSON-Base 9,10,11,12;
 GORDANA GORGUCHVILI-Choir 9; Office Aide 12; Powder Puff
 12; Tennis 9,10;
 MELANIE GOTCH-Teacher's Aide 11;
 LAWRENCE GRIFFITH;

MICHAEL E. GUERSEY-Basketball 10,11; Basketball Captain 9; Class
 Officer 11; FCA 12; Football 10,11; Football Captain 9; Natural Leaders
 10,11,12; From Court 11; Quilt Club 11;
 CHRISTIAN A. GUTIERREZ-Choir 9,10,11,12; Spanish Club 9;
 Swimming 9; Track 9,11;
 VALERIE NICOLE GUTIERREZ-Choir 9; PHS 11;
 Powder Puff 10,11,12; WMF 11; Yearbook 12;
 MICHAEL GUZMAN;
 JEFFREY C. ANDERSON-Art Club 10,11,12; CFC 12;
 Morning Announcer 10,11,12; MCAT 11; NHS 9; NHS 11; Officer 12;
 Newspaper 9; Pindie Radio 11; PHS 11,12; Powder Puff 12; From Committee
 11; Folklore Committee 10,11; Focus 12; Speech Team 9,10,11,12; SAC
 9,10,11,12; Volleyball 10; WMF 11; 10,11,12; Yearbook 9,12;



CUNCY FALL-FEC 12; Teacher's Aide 11,2.
CHEEVL FAMILTON, Cheer 9.
Gymnastics 10, FEFC 12, Softball 9.
KIMFFHY FALTERICK.



ANGELAM FAFIS-CWC 12; Softball 9,10; Teacher's Aide 10,11; Volleyball 9,10,11,2.
MACCUS FALES.
MELINDA FATHILL.



ELLY M. FEGEUS-German 9,10;
N'S 11,2; Newspaper 9; Teacher's Aide 12;
Yearbook 9.
CAELIE FEHMANN-FEC 12; Student
Government 10; Track 9.
ERAN FEDEUN.



NICOLE APRIL FAUL-Cross Country 9,
10, 11, 12; N'S 9,10; Spanish Club 10;
Tennis 9,10,11,2.
ALECEALANIGH FICKERSON-
CWC 11,2; French Club 10,11,2; Feg Club
11,2; MCATF 11,2; Newspaper 12; Powder
Puff 11,2; SAC 11,2; SAC'D 11,2; Student
Government 10,11,2.
ELLEN FINN HILL-MCATF 12;
Newspaper 12; Powder Puff 12; SAC 12;
Student Government 12; Yearbook 10,11.



JESSICA CEGLES-H-A 11,2; Pom-pom
9, 11; Captain 9.
CHRISTINE FUGG-TTS-Estate 9;
German Club 11; JETS 12; N'S 9; N'S
11,2; Powder Puff 9; Softball 9; Speech Team
9,10; Teacher's Aide 12.
ERIAN F. FCGAN-Baseball 9,10,11,2;
Basketball 9,10; Football 9,10,11,2; JETS
11,2; MPAC 12; N'S 9,10; N'S 11,2;
Office Aide 12.



EITH FCSFELD-Drama Club 10; Officer
11,2; Fall Play 10,12; French Club 10,11;
Officer 10; N'S 9; N'S 11,2; Pom-pom 9; Focus
10; Speech 10,11; Spring Musical 9; Student
Government 11; Thespians 11,2.
JESSIE FUEHMAN-Dance Frolic 12;
WAB 12.
JOSEPH M. FUSSEY-Football 9,10;
Football 9,10,11,2; JETS 12; MPAC 12;
N'S 11,2; Track 10,11,2.

FRANCOS dean & maria

Dean and Maria are each unique individuals. Their personalities always shine through to make them fun people to be around.

Dean is the older sibling. After high school, he would like to college and pursue a career that is now unknown. It sounds like a plan familiar to many of us, but his dream is to design a Corvette as his own. When asked if he will miss his sister, Maria, he says, "Yeah, I'll miss her, where's she going?" To him, they get along "okay." In his spare time, he works and spends time with his friends. He states, "I'm never home." He's traveled five times to Greece, but likes vacationing in Florida better, as he says, "Florida's awesome."



Maria is a generous and outgoing individual. She describes herself by saying, "I'm a walking diary." She is a diary, but that is fine because her friends trust her enough to let her in on all the gossip. As of now she has her goals set for after high school. They are (in order): traveling the world, attending college, getting hitched, and moving to Greece. She has already been there seven times and loves it. She says, "If I could, I'd just take all my friends from the U.S. and just get up and leave for Greece." Her extra time is spent working, being active in church groups, and spending time with friends.

These are two very special people. Now if they could only stop fighting like most brothers and sisters!

◆DEIDRE ELIZONDO

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

LENART michelle

The 7:35 homeroom bell takes its final toll as Michelle Lenart once again comes running through the door, hurdling mounds of books and coats piled on the floor. "Whew! I made it!" she exclaims. Yes, sports evidently do play a role in Lenart's career here at the high school. While she may not be the famous track star, her hard work in tennis has earned her an award for the Most Improved Player.



What else makes Michelle Lenart different from other people? "I believe it's my silly personality and the ability to make people laugh," she replies. This is definitely true coming from the girl

who has such a great sense of humor and vivacious personality. She remembers one time she made people laugh. "I was at the Spaghetti Factory when I slipped off my chair and hit my chin on the table. Everyone stopped eating to watch me." Two of the instances she easily recalls are all the great times she had on trips to Indianapolis with Nicole Hiatt, and tuning into the sounds of the Garth Brooks on the way to the museum.

Although she loves to have a good time, Michelle is taking her future very seriously. One of her most important goals consists of planning to attend Purdue University in the fall to study pharmacy.

◆ GARYN KRAYA

COULD'N'
Possibly
Be BETTER

MALE ALAN FLYER-Chief 9; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Office Aide 12;
FECNDA JACKSON
HEIS C. JAS VSHYE-and 9; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; F-A-D; Fencing Court (Football) 12; Fencing Court (Football) 12; Morning Announcer 12; Office Aide 12;
Powder Puff 12; Softball 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball 9, 10, 11.

JEFF JAFFE-WSLF Football 12;
LYNN JEFFERSON-Football 9, 10, 11;
Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11; Teacher's Aide 11, 12;
CHRIS JENSEN-Teacher's Aide 11, 12.

DAVID JONES,
JEANETTE JONES-SADD 10, 11;
Track 10;
MAFF JONES.

MICHELLE JONES-Choir 9; Pom-poms 9;
Softball 9, 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11, 12;
JCHS ANTHEM SYFADELAF-Golf 10, 11, 12; Orchestra 9, 10, 11; Parade Float 12;
WMIS 12;
ANNA FAMAFCSEI-Chief 9; Office Aide 10; Pom-poms 9, 10; Captain 9; Fovae 12.

CVTILANAFAMAFCSLE-Powder Puff 11, 12;
SARAF HENDERICK,
TIM HENNEY-JETS 12; N-S 11, 12;
Softball 10; Speech 10, 11, 12; Student Government 10, 11, 12.

JASON FLSILE-Checkering 12;
ANGELIA FILGCHL-Art Club 9;
Checkering 9, 10, 11, 12; Spanish Club 12;
Track 10;
BRADLEY FLEWCHES.





FRANK PACAS

CUHLIN TOSMAHA-Band 9; Student Government 9;
SUZANNE COSTUME-Choir 9; German Club 10; NJHS 9; Female
Radio 12; FSN 12; Powder Puff 11,12; Student Government 10; Teacher's
Aide 12; Tennis 9; WMF'S 12.
MAFEEALICZAK-Golf 9,11,12.
STEVE FISHYSELF-Baseball 9; Track 11,12.



CARIN A. HENSA-Class Officer 9; FEA 11,12; Homecoming Court
(Football) 12; NJHS 9; NHS 11,12; Office Aide 12; Pom-poms 9; Student
Government 11,12; Teacher's Aide 11; Yearbook 12.
ANDREW FURCWSKI.
RICK LAHAFT.
KEVIN LAIN-Baseball 9,10; EEA Officer 12; Golf 10; Female Radio
11,12; FSN 12; Pom-poms 9,10,11; Powder Puff 11,12; Prom Committee
11; Soccer Manager 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Tennis 9; Track 10,11,12;
WMF'S 11; Producer 12.
PHILIP LAMMICH-Baseball 12; Tennis 12.



JAMES M. LASH-Baseball 9; Football 9,10,11; SAC 12.
SHEALAIMER.
ANGEL HILCOUP-Choir 9.
SHANAWHEE-Academic Decathlon Team 11,12; Debate 10,11;
Environmental Club 10,11,12; German Club 11; JETS 12; NJHS 9; NHS
11,12; Orchestra 9,10,11,12; Quiz Bowl Team 11,12; Science Olympiad 11;
Speech 10,11; Spill Bowl Team 10,11,12; Student Government 12; Super
Quiz Team 10,11,12; Tennis 10; Track 11; Yearbook 9.
DANIEL J. LEKA-HERO 12.



MICHELLE CHRISTINE LUNARTE-Band 9,10,11; Football 9;
Crest Country 11; NJHS 9; Tennis 9,10,11,12.
MAFEEALICZAK-Band 9,10,11,12; Cheerleading 12; Choir 10,11,12;
Music 10, 12; Soccer 10,11,12; Show Choir 11,12; Vocal Teams 11,12.
TOMMY LEP-Baseball 9; Choir 9,10,11,12; Environmental Club 12;
NJHS 9; Show Choir 11,12; Student Government 12; Tennis 9,10,11,12;
Vocal Teams 12.
MATTHEW C. LESNIAK-Baseball 9,10; Football 9; Cheerleading
12; Football 9,10,11,12; French Club 10,11; JETS Officer 12; NJHS
9,10; NHS 11,12.
KEITH HESTER.



HERBEN LEWIS-Choir 9,10,11,12; Drama Club 10; Female Radio
11,12; FSN 11,12; Show Choir 9,10,11,12; Vocal Teams 9,12; WMF'S 11;
Producer 12.
PHILIP W. LEWIS-Choir 9; Football 9,10,11,12; Track 10.
PAUL HAFOS-Football 9.
SARA LUTTY-Choir 9; Newspaper 9; Swimming 9,10,11; Captain 12.
SARAH E. LUCKHART-Club 10; Office Aide 12.
Powder Puff 10.



JOSEPH LEMMER-Cheerleading 12; Female Radio 11,12;
WMF'S 11,12.
KRISTIN LYNN LUCIA-Cheerleading 9,10,11,12; Captain 9,10;
German Club 10; Gymnastics 9,10,11; Captain 12; MFAC 12;
Swimming 10,11,12; Teacher's Aide 12; Track 9,10,11,12.
T.J. LUN-Baseball 9; Football 9,10,11; Captain 12; EEA 12;
Homecoming Court (Football) 12; JETS 11,12; MFAC 12; NJHS
9,10; NHS 11,12; Newspaper 12; FSN 11,12; Prom Fung 11; CCS 11,12;
Student Government 10,11; Tennis 9,10; Captain 11,12; WMF'S 11;
Producer 12.
RICHARD LYONS-NJHS 9; NHS 11,12; Office Aide 12.
FERNANDO MAFRAN.

JENNIFER MAIDEN

BLANKMARE, FFA 10; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Sports Club 10; Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12

NANETTE S. MALEFIC-MFAC 12; Softball 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball 9, 10, 11; Captain 12

LAURIE MANESS-Band 9; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Morning Announcer 12; Newspaper 12; Office Aide 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Cusht Club Officer 11, 12; Softball 9, 10, 11, 12; Student Government 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Yearbook 12

BRIAN MANNING-Band 9; Football 9; Games Club 11; JETS 12

SANDY MARSH CHRISTOPHER MARTINO TONYAMARFENC

EMMANUEL M. CANN-Choir 9, 10, 11, 12

CORREY M. DEEMCTI-Choir 10, 11, 12; Cross Country 10;

Environmental Club 11; German Club 10, 11; FEEC 12; NHS 9;

Choir 11, 12; Spell Bowl Team 10, 11; Soccer 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 10, 11, 12; Track 10;

Manager 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 10, 11, 12; Track 10;

KEVIN Mc GEE

RICHY Mc MILAN-Base 9, 11, 12; Football 9; Football 10;

KEVIN McFAY

ELIZABETH ANN MIESLER-Choir 9; Teacher's Aide 11, 12;

MICHAEL MIESELL-Football 9, 10, 11; Captain 12; Morning

Announcer 12; Student Government 10; Wrestling 9, 10, 11; Captain 12;

CURTIS MINGCHUK

LOREI MCDUGHS-Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Choir 9; MFAC 12; NHS 11, 12; Softball 9, 10; Teacher's Aide 12;

SCOTT MCLCHAN-Dancing 10; German Club 9, 10, 11; FEEC 12;

Swimming 9; Teacher's Aide 11;

MIGAN MCLONEY-Football 9, 10; French Club 10, 11; JETS 12;

Morning Announcer 12; NHS 9; NHS 11; Officer 12; Powder Puff 12;

Science Olympiad 12; Softball 9, 10, 11, 12; Student Government 11, 12;

Volleyball 9, 10, 11;

DEMISE MCCOY

FALDI McFALES JR.-Office Aide 11; Track 10;

LESLIE MICHELLE MCITE-EPA 12; Cheerleading Captain 9; Choir

9; Natural Helpers 12; Office Aide 10; Powder Puff 11, 12;

LAWRENCE MUDRY-Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Dancing 10; Show Choir

11, 12; Vocal Teams 10, 11, 12;

MATTHEW NAWAREC-Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Football 9, 10;

Show Choir 11; Yearbook 12;

SIGNE NIELSEN-Soccer 12;

ERIK NIEL ERIK NILES

PAULINAE NOLASCCE-Base 9, 10, 11; FFA 10, 11; Day Corp 10;

PENN 11, 12; Tennis 9, 10, 12; WMF S 11, 12;

ADRIANNA NOLASCCE

ERIK NIELSEN

ERIK NILES





HECHIL CETHCVSLL
MANSY CLUB - Checkered 10, 11, 12;
 Captain 10, 11; Class Officer 10, 11; Cheer
 10, 11, 12; French Club 10, 11, 12; MAF 10;
 NJHS 10, 11; NJHS 11, 12; Natural Helpers
 11, 12; Pom-pom Captain 10; Free Talker 11, 12;
 Powder Puff 10; Show Choir 11, 12; Speech 10;
 Student Government 10, 11, 12; Track 10, 11, 12;
 Vocal 11, 12;
JCYC HIVE - Chorus 10;
 Powder Puff 11, 12.



MESTIS MAF MAIE CISC - Academic
 Decathlon Team 11, 12; Environmental Club 10;
 Officer 11, 12; MCAF 11, 12; NJHS 10; NHS
 11, 12; Natural Helpers 10, 11, 12; Chorus 10;
 10, 11, 12; Quiz Bowl Team 10, 11, 12; Speech
 10; Spill Bowl Team 10, 11, 12; Super Quiz Team
 10, 11; Yearbook 10;
SARAF CEGC - NFA 10; SADD 10;
 Sunshine Society 11;
ELN JAMIN E - CETH GCN - Football 10;
 Baseball 10; Office Aide 10.



JASC - FAW CWI - NFA 11, 12;
TVSC - CWI - Football 10; Football
 10, 11, 12; NJHS 10; Track 10, 11, 12; Wrestling
 10, 11;
NANCY DACE CVSL - Choir 10; EFA 11;
 President 10; Lunch Club 10; NJHS 10; NHS
 10, 11, 12; Pom-pom 10; CTH Captain 10; Powder
 Puff 10; Prom Committee 11; Student
 Government 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11;
 Yearbook 10.



KATHYAN M. PAHL - Choir 10, 11, 12;
 NJHS 10; NHS 11, 12; Office Aide 10; Show
 Choir 10; Teacher's Aide 10; Tennis 10, 11;
 Volleyball 10;
TEACY DANIELA - 11, 12; Powder Puff
 10, 11, 12; Track 10, 11; Yearbook 10;
EVAN DACE - CF - Football 10; Football
 10, 11; Captain 10; Pom-pom 10; Football
 (Football) 10; Prom Court 11;
 Track 10, 11, 12.



MAEY DACE - SCNS
DESSA WICH FVICH - Powder Puff 11;
 Student Government 10;
LUCINA AFZ - Cheer 10, 11, 12; Powder
 Puff 10; Spanish Club 10.



DANTE AFZ
SETHYEL ZAIC - Choir 10;
HISAPLEIN - Student Government 10.

BACHICH

Bugging my parents for money" is the one thing Erin Bachich is going to miss about high school. The one thing that some of her friends missed early during high school was her. Returning from Bakersfield, California, Bachich came back to finish high school and will graduate with her class. In the beginning of the year Erin was to graduate mid-term, her friends and family influenced her to stay for her whole senior year. She is in no hurry to grow up.

Leaving Merrillville for two years and coming back, she admits that the "people have changed, some for the better, some for the worse." But moments such as her most embarrassing have remained the same. "My brothers used to interview guys over the phone before they let me talk with them." "They are so over protective, but I learned a lot from them," and if that's not bad enough, "My bra broke during a pom routine, and it was half way hanging out of my sleeve." Planning to attend California State, these moments will never be forgotten.

As for a family outlook, she stated, "I want no kids because I want nice things. I want to wear the pants in the house and make more money than my husband." Looking forward to becoming "more independent," she's searching for a guy who is not a kiss up, boring, and could put up a good argument. "I think I found him but he is 2500 miles away."

From her most embarrassing moments to her most exciting, Merrillville is filled with memories that she will never forget.

◆ TRACY PARKER



COHEN'S
Possibly
 Be BETTER

RIVERA

Who is that?" some would inquire as the domineering presence of Sidney Rivera walks by. He's kind of small, but he has a sense of style and confidence that attracts your attention almost immediately. You barely have time to associate with the guy considering his busy schedule with sports and activities. "I grew up with baseball," comments Rivera, "and I play tennis because I like the feeling of



being alone against another opponent. Plus on that rare occasion that you get to actually have a conversation with this intriguing senior, you will come to realize what an extraordinary person he definitely is.

"I believe that you shouldn't have to follow people. Have your own ideas, and if you want something I believe that you have to go out and get it." Words to live by, according to Rivera. By just observing him, you can see that he is his own person, a leader, not a follower. His plans after graduation consist of going to college and getting a well paying job. If any girls think they might be interested in this Spanish stallion, he likes girls that don't put on an act, who can be themselves, and like to have fun. Oh yeah, and he has a great voice! Singing is one of his many talents.

◆ KIMBERLY ANDERSON

COURT
Possibly
Be Better

CWYNTHIA HINS-Clerk Aide II.D; Court Club; Officer I.C.
MAKYLEE CRYSTAL-Sundown; Speech II.D; L.I.C.I.I.I.E.S.C.N.



PAULETTE CASHEL
ELIZABETH FAZZA-Art Club II.D; German Club I.C.I.I.
DIONNE BLASENCIA



MELISSA ECHEN-Teacher's Aide I.C.
DANIELLE-Art Club II.D; Office Aide I.D.
JENNIFER KACHICKI



FAHLESE VERNICA AFARIS-FFA I.D; FFA I.C.I.I.D; Spanish Club I.C.I.I.D.
FANSHU ALICE KAMRIZ-FFA I.C; Homecoming Court (Football) I.D; Football 9.I.C.I.I. Captain I.D; Future II.D; Spanish Club I.C.I.I. Officer I.D; Student Government II.D; Swimming I.C.
ERIC C. KANECUHT-Head 9.I.C.I.I.D; German Club 9.I.C; Swimming 9.I.C.I.I.D.



JENNIFER LYNN KANECUHT-FFA II, Newspaper 9, Court Club II, Yearbook I.D.
HEATHER LEE-G.
KASHEE REED.



KYAN FRIEDL-Homecoming Court (Football) I.D.
LEANN RICHMOND-Cheer 9.I.C; Swimming I.D.
TRICIA REIMANN.





VAN EIST CVSH
 SIE VY W. LIVE-ALL Football 9J,C,11,D; Cheer 9J,C,11,D;
 Homecoming Court (Football) D; NHS 9J,C; Show Choir 11,D;
 Tennis 9J,C,11; Wrestling 9J,C,11;
 ALLISON C. L. H. G. U. L. Z. Cheerleading 9J,C,11,D; Captain 11; Cheer
 9J,C,11; FCA 11,D; FFA 11,D; Homecoming court (Football) 11,D;
 Homecoming Princess (Football) 11,D; Morning Announcer 9; Natural
 Helpers 11,D; Powder Puff 11,D; Fren Court 11; Pump Up the
 Volume Chairperson D; Student Government 9J,C,11,D; Officer 9;
 Teacher's Aide 11; Track 9;
 JEFF L. C. S. C. Tennis 9;
 LINDSAY C. H. Fand 9; Powder Puff 11,D.



JONATHAN D. COWE - German Club 9J,C,11,D; Golf 9J,C,11,D;
 JEIS 11,D; MFAC D; National Merit Finalist D; NHS 9; NHS
 11,D; CASS 11,D; Student Government D; Yearbook 9,11.
 ELMAN C. SANCIS
 JASON SWICK
 EVAN SCHAFER
 NATE SHL - Fand 9; Dining 9J,C,11,D; German Club 11,D;
 SAIT 9J,C,11,D.



FRISTED, STEPHEN E. F. H. A. 11,D; Cheer 11; Newspaper 9;
 Powder Puff 11,D;
 SAMANTHA STEWART - Cheerleading 9J,C,11,D; Cheer
 9J,C,11,D; Nurse's Aide 11; Powder Puff 11,D; Show Choir D;
 JOHN SHELLES
 JONATHAN SHUTZ - Cheerleading D; Cheer 9J,C,11,D; Football
 9J,C,11,D; Show Choir 11,D; Vocal Teams 11,D;
 THEO MICHAEL SHUTZ - Cheer 9J,C,11,D; Football 11; IN
 2000 D; Soccer 9; SAIT - Officer 9J,C,11,D; Vocal Teams 11.



ELIZABETH ANN SIMONIC - Cross Country 9J,C,11,Captain D;
 NHS 9; Powder Puff D; Speech D; Student Government 11,D; Teacher's
 Aide D; Tennis 9; Track 11,D;
 EVAN SMITH - Football 9J,C,11,D; Teacher's Aide D;
 LATHAN SMITH
 FRISTEN SCHMIDT - Academic Decathlon Team 11; Drama Club
 11,D; French Club 11,D; MFAC D; NHS 11,D; Powder Puff 11,D;
 Tennis 9J,C,11,D;
 JIMMY SCHLESSEL



JENNIFER ELLEN SHUTZ - NHS 9; NHS 11,D; Powder Puff
 D; Softball 9J,C,11,D; Student Government D; Teacher's Aide D;
 JESSIE STEINMAN - Fand 9J,C; Forum Major 11,D; Jazz Impact
 11,D;
 SARAH STAGE - Swimming 11;
 JILL STAMITZ - Football D;
 EICHAU - STEINSEL - Cheer 9J,C,11,D; Cross Country 9J,C,11;
 Captain D; NHS 9; NHS 11,D; Show Choir 11,D; Student
 Government 9J,C; Track 9J,C,11,D; Vocal Teams 11,D.



KENIA STEINSEL
 MELISSA STEINSEL - Football Club 9; CWC D; Drama Club
 11,D; Lullaby 11; Freq Club 11; Guest Club 11; Freme 11,D; Spring
 Musical 11,D; SAIT 9J,C; Teacher's Aide 11,D; Treasures 11,D;
 CONNOR STEINSEL
 HEATHER STEINSEL - Academic Decathlon Team 11,D; Debate 11;
 German Club 11,D; NHS 11,D; Speech 11; Tennis 9,11;
 NICOLE STEINSEL - Fand 9; Teacher's Aide 11.

ROBIN STUPAR

CARIE SULLIVAN-NIS II.D; Teacher's Aide II.
JASON EDWARD SUEZIAL-Choir 9, J.C.II.D; NIS II.D;
Basketball Manager I.C.II.D;
JANETTE SMITH;
SILVUS SZOL

VENNA TANASEC SEL CHAD TACEY

EFFECCA THILP;
MICHAEL THIES-Choir 9; J.C.II.D; Soccer 9, J.C.II.D;
VALENTINA ICECECSA-Newspaper II.D; Powder Puff I.C.II;
CAS II.D;

CHRISTOPHER

ERIAN TRIVITT-Dancing I.C; Golf I.C.II;
MADONNE TREFEL;
TANJARE TURNER-J.F.C. I.D;
MAEVANN VALENTINIS 9; Newspaper 9; Office Aide II, Pom-poms
Captain 9, Powder Puff I.D;

AMANDAYAN DUSSELDORF-Choir 9, Fall Play 9, Office Aide
II, Powder Puff I.C, Show Choir 9, Spring play 9,
DIANNAI, VAN DUSSELDORF-Office Aide II; Powder Puff
I.C.II;

GARY VAN VOLLENBURG;
BERNADETTE VARGAS-Food 9, J.C.II; FFA I.C.II.D; Spanish
Club II.D;
SCOTT VARGO;

ANDREA VASAS-Basketball 9, Office Aide I.D, Pom-poms 9,
NADIA CHEISTEL VENGAS-Band 9, J.C; Day Corps II.D;
MICHAEL VEEBIS-Choir 9, J.C.II.D; Drama Club I.C, Office II.D;
Fall Play I.C.II; NIS 9, J.C; NIS II.D; Pom-poms 9, J.C; Fosse II.D;
Show Choir II.D; Speech 9, J.C.II.D; Spring Musical I.C.II.D; Student
Government II; Treasurers I.C.II.D; Vocal Iens II.D;
JIM VEMILLION-Basketball 9; Teacher's Aide I.D;
CARLOS VILLANUEVA-Art Club II; Football II, J.C; Office Aide I.D;

VANESSA VIEGO-F.H.C. II.D; Teacher's Aide 9, II.
AEGMILUVIC-Basketball 9, J.C; Builder's Club 9; Class President
I.C.II; Choir 9, J.C.II.D; Fall Play 9; FFA II; NIS 9; Pom-poms I.D;
Prom Committee II; Fosse I.C.II.D; Speech I.D; SAC I.C; II; Student
Government I.C.II.D; Basketball Manager II; Volleyball I.C;
F.A.N.T.V.U.C.I.O.
CHRIS VUHN;
DAVID WALLA;





ERIC AMAR WALTER and JIC, D2;
Chereshing IC, B; Captain D2; Gull
JIC, D2; NJS J; NJS D2; F-compons D2;
From Committee H; Tennis J;
HITTY A. WHITE-SF and JIC, D2; LEA
D2; German Club IC; Gull J, B; J. connecting
Court (Basketball) H; F-compons H, D2; F-com
Committee H; Spanish Club D2; Tennis JIC,
MAEY WEILLS.



ALAM JAMES WEILZUS-F and
JIC, D2; Cress County JIC, H A C, H
J; Football JIC; Jazz Impact JIC, D2;
Track J;
FEENETTA WILLIAMS-MC AIF D,
Newspaper D, Spanish Club H, SAC D,
THE LISA WILLIAMS-F and JIC, D2;
Jazz Impact J; Teacher's Aide H, D2.



MIE WISNIEWSKI-F and JIC, D2;
NJS J; NJS H, D2; Newspaper JIC, D2; FNS
D2; Quiz Bowl Team J; Student Government IC;
Teacher's Aide H; WMHS D;
LAURE W. JIC WICZ-AF Club D;
ITA D2; SF S H, D2; CANS D2; F-ease H;
Spanish Club D2; Student Government H, D2;
Teacher's Aide IC; Tennis J; Track IC;
Yearbook D2;
JISNIEF WCC-CCCE D2; Powder Puff
IC, H; Student Government H.



JIC, SF; W. TELLS D2; WMHS D,
ERICA A. YAMERIS-AF-Chereshing JIC;
Newspaper JIC, H; Editor-In-Chief D2;
VANSSAYAF-C-Drama Club IC.

HALKIAS

Fun, determined, and daring are just a few qualities that describe this unique personality. Irene Halkias, '95, comments, "When people really get to know me, they are shocked at how crazy I act since I appear to be so normal."

Calling her "involved" would be an understatement. While busy delivering speeches, participating in student

govern-
ment, work-
ing on the
student ad-
visory com-
mittee,
reading the
morning
announce-
ments, at-
tending her
church
youth
group, lead-
ing the
Maids of



Atherras greek sorority, or even playing volleyball, you won't catch her with a dull moment. Not only is she President of the National Honor Society, Halkias is currently Vice-President of the senior class as well.

Because she is so greatly involved, students can easily recognize her face on Friday mornings, during the PNN broadcast.

Halkias plans to obtain a graduate's degree in psychology. She wants to live up to her potential. "I will utilize the talents I have, and do the best I can to leave the world a better place than I found it. I want to enjoy life, and always try my hardest."

◆ LAURIE MANESS

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

Activity Abbreviations

EPA Business Professionals of America
CFC Commencement Planning Com-
mittee
FCA Fellowship of Christian Athletes
FEA Future Educators of America
FFA Future Homemakers of America
MCAIF Multi-Cultural Awareness Task
Force

MPAC Merrillville Pirate Athletic Council
NHS National Honor Society
NJS National Junior Honor Society
PNN Pirate News Network
Quand S Quill and Scroll
SAC Student Advisory Council
SADD Students Against Driving Drunk
WMHS Broadcasting Club

70LONDZ

What can one say when talking about Julia Zolondz? Try outgoing, funny, smart, and active. Definitely active.

Zolondz is involved in many clubs and organizations. She is currently in NHS, MCATF (Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force), Concert Choir, Show Choir, VocalTeens, newspaper, secretary in Drama Club, and the vice president of Quill and Scroll.



When the weekend comes she's like every other student. She likes to go to the movies, hangout with her friends, and an occasional trip down to Ball State tops her do-list.

What's her most memorable moment? "When I had to order my announcements. That's when I thought to myself - wow! I'm going to graduate, I'm really going to graduate!" she shyly stated.

Zolondz, feels that choir director Roger Emig has had an influence on her life. Zolondz commented, "He's really put a lot of confidence in me over my junior high and high school years. He's really opened my personality and helped me through some tough times."

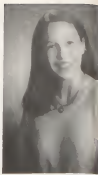
Zolondz, plans on attending Ball State University where she wants to major in Magazine Journalism and minor in Telecommunications.

And what is her goal for this year? Well, to make it through the year without getting senioritis too badly.

◆ AMANDA RICHARDSON

COULDN'T
Possibly
Be BETTER

HISAWYCH, Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; MISYIVSYCH, Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; FHC 12; Teacher's Aide 11; ALISAMAK, ZAP, Choir 9; Dining 11; Captain 12; Cosmopolis 9, 10, 11; Captain 12; Fencing Court (Football) 12; Fencing Court (Basketball) 10; Powder Puff 10; Softball 9, 10, 11, 12.



TERRY ZAPINSKI, Choir 9; MEAC 12; Soccer 9, 10, 11; Captain 12; Tennis 9; FHC 11, 12; ZEPHUS, Band 9, 10, 11, 12; Jazz Impact 9; NHS 11, 12; Powder Puff 10; SUSAN, FHC 11, 12; Choir 9; Natural Volleys 11, 12; Powder Puff 11, 12; Softball 12; Teacher's Aide 10, 11.



JULIA, ZEPHUS, Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Drama Club 10; Officer 11, 12; Fall Play 11, 12; Morning Announcer 11, 12; MCATF 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; Newspaper 11, 12; Parade Float 12; FHS 11, 12; CAS 11, 12; Officer 12; FHS 10, 11, 12; Show Choir 11, 12; Spring Play 11, 12; Student Government 10, 11; Tennis 9; Thespian 10; Officer 11, 12; VocalTeens 11, 12; WMI 11, 12.



Seniors Not Pictured

ICKEANE, FAHLE, AITEN, Band 9; BRIAN ANDREW, EIC, FHC 12; Teacher's Aide 12; DANNY, EYD, JERRY, EUGG, TINA, CASIHAN, S-Basketball 9; Dining 10; Guest Club 10, 12; Spanish Club 11; STEVE, CICHY, MICHAEL, CICHY, CITY, CESSIMA, JONATHAN, DEALE, IVAN, DMSIA, SLE-GIO, GAVAN, SHAWN, GARCIA, MATTHEW, GILL, ELMY, GORDON, DAVID, A. GUTENBERG, Band 11, 12; Drama Club 11; Fall Play 10, 11; Elroy Corps 12; German Club 9, 10, 11, 12; JETS 12; NHS 9; NHS 11, 12; Quiz Bowl Team 11, 12; FHS 10; Swimming 9, 10; Thespian 12; MIKE, FARNEY, JONITA, HARRIS, FHC 12; JASON, E. HINE, Band 9, 10; AV, Adv. 12; FHC 11, 12; CHEY, A. JOHN, JOE, HENDERICK, DAMIAN, HILL, JASON, L. FINE, FHC 11, 12; JENSON, HUGHES, HENRI, HENRI, HENRI, JUSTIN, SCOTT, IVONSON, EILJANA, MAKARAKSA, JASON, MAKARAS, HEVIAN, FAY, PHILIP, MINCZA, ICEASIMUX, FAY, MEYER, Choir 9, 10; Tennis 9, 10; Teacher's Aide 9; MICHAEL

MILYVSEL, Newspaper 12; HEATHAN, MUNIZ, DANNY, MUSIC, CASH, FHC 12; JEFFERSON, NEDEJ, CIVIC, RISH, NICHOL, CLAUDE, NIN, Track 9, 10; ROBERT, CHEN, NICHOL, NICHOL, NICHOL, ALBA, CICHY, CICHY, FHC 12; FAYMON, PAZ, JONAS, IV, RISH, NICHOL, NICHOL, NICHOL, CLAYTON, ROBINSON, HENRI, ROBINSON, EHA, ROBINSON, CHRISTOPHER, RODRIGUEZ, CLAUDIA, RODRIGUEZ, TUCIANA, C. RODRIGUEZ, Choir 9; Fencing Court (Football) 12; Fencing Princess (Basketball) 10; NHS 9; Office Aide 11; Powder Puff 12; Guest Club 11; EVAN, EGLES, HATH, SEWARD, MARK, STANISZ, FHC 11, 12; Dining 11; Drama Club 10; Jazz Impact 11; Newspaper 12; Spanish Club 10; Swimming 11; Teacher's Aide 12; WES, STAFFORD, JENNIFER, LEE, VEGA, Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Dining 10; Nurse's Aide 11; Fencing Captain 9; SHANNON, WHIT, JEFFREY, WHIT, DANIEL, WHITMAN, HEATHER, WHITMAN, NICHOL, ZAPINSKI, JESSIE, ZEPHUS.



Furbough photo
 ♦ Having their crazy picture taken, Paul Foreman, Chris Hodge, and Irene Falkner, all '95, get ready before the actual shooting. The group also tried a human pyramid.



♦ It's the "Pherren and Erin Show" starring who else but Pherren Lewis and Erin Loin, both '95. The two were known for their radio show and were also producers in charge of the radio station their senior year.

Furbough photo
 ♦ Members of the senior homecoming court, Luciana Rodriguez, Caryn Fraga, Queen Leah Frink, Alisa Zak, and Erin Janovsky, all '95, receive roses for their participation.



FOLS CROSS COUNTRY-Row 1: Jared Tabor, Ted Umphress, Greg Pierson, Jason Tabor, Mike Villanueva, Row 2: Brian Frey, Andy Belush, Lehman Best, Rich Stazinski, Row 3: Matt Johnston, Rick Mezo, Aaron Malerich, Tom Aliff, Dave Kamano.



GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY-Row 1: Jill Harms, Liz Simunic, Jessica Vargas, Albert Snowden. Row 2: Cheryl Gonzalez, Jessica Figueroa, Michelle Hogan, Marianne Maj.



FOLSHIGH FOOTBALL-Row 1: Chris Hodges, Joe Eich, Adonis Swift, Drew Seydel, Paul Virgo, Row 2: Nick Holm, Stevie Lopez, Naum Doneski, Josh Francis, Matt Pavlovich, Mike Anacero, Eric Beale, Row 3: Eddie Roman, Jason Cortiano, Erik Herber, Asst. Coach Troy Clark, Jeremiah Rodriguez, Nik Kistewski, Rowell Manning, Row 4: Eric Chapman, Sam Berkman, Mike Hunkle, Matt Sparacino, Craig Demaree, Jorge Alcocer, Bret Romeo, Jessie Hernandez, Jay Lacny, Row 5: P.J. Montelone, Matt Egner, Daniel Spencer, Pete Nawowski, David Janda, Andy Kendera, Mike Curtis, Zoran Pespotski, Terrance Boyd, Matt Aubin, Darryl Lawrence, Rich Malden, Ryan Francis, Andy Byrom, Mike Brewer, Joe Konell, Ron Russian.

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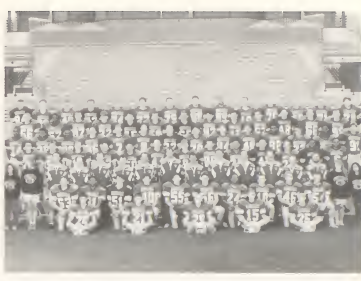
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GIRLS' GOLF: Coach Walla, Sarah Felinski, Missy Dobis, Erica Walla, Kelly Meeks, Megan Dixon, Carolina Procter, Coach Mike Hackett.



FLEXERS: Row 1: Danielle Ramirez, Jennifer Bewley, Nancy Packowski, Row 2: Abby Vivo, Summer Dicken, Michelle Braden, Kelly Walters, Jamie Barochowski, Row 3: Kathy Barochowski, Diana Hammer, Ade DeSouza, Deanna Shonk, Melena Marie, Bonnie McFarland, Row 4: Emily Barnett, Kristy Malast, Amanda Buda, Cathy Gallimore, Row 5: Nicole Paniquas, Annette Harner, Nicole Rakich, Elisabeth Black, Kelly Kellman, Natalie Conner, Christina Gargano, Not Pictured: Kristy Trock, Melissa Clark, Melissa Sonaty, Erin Price



JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL; Row 1: Kayvon Karimi, Adam Vadas, Sergio Medellin, Fred Buck, JR Medellin, Emmanuel Kazonis, Bob Kosteski, Steve Rivera, Jeff Fairbairn, Steve Kavios, Row 2: Coach Tim Thompson, Steve Karson, Jon Talbot, Nick Wright, Nick Gonzalez, Josh Gross, Bill Fairbairn, Jeff Cseke, Jake Gross, Sean Buck, David Rainey, Coach Dragos



VARSITY FOOTBALL; Row 1: Correy McDermott, Freddie Buck Mark Lengyel, Hank Pimentel, Ben Jarvis, Eric Forester, Jake Gross, David Rainey, Mike Tyrikos, Jenny Duplaga, Row 2: Coach Dragos, Mike Rustevski, Johnny Miller, Kevin DeYoung, Robert Zimnawoda, Terry Zapinski, Mike Thien, Warren Conner, Josh Gross, Chris Dimitroff, Coach Tim Thompson



JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER; Row 1: April Pratscher, Rebekah Jusko, April Connelly, Jamie Ulbrich, Candice Parker, Kathi Gaines, Michelle Flores, Aubrey Kelley, Row 2: Coach Bob Bergeson, Mary Johnson, Jennifer Roames, Tanya Taleff, Signe Nelsen, Deanna Semovski, Delphine Wedding, Michelle Vasilakis, Kelly Dahlin, Coach Randy Conner

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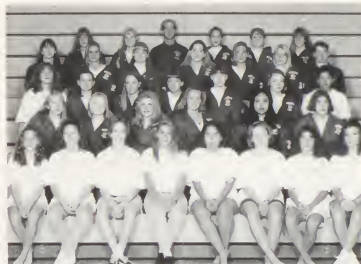
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VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER: Row 1: Sarah Camery, Kate O'Sullivan, Jill Matusik, Karl Forster, Mandy Sopko, Jamie Childress, Betty Todoroska. Row 2: Coach Bob Bergeson, Coach Randy Conner, Sara Bruner, Natalie Conner, Alexandra Zestanakis, Andrea Simpson, Lena Cole, Kati Foreman, Dawn Buchko, Stephanie Peek.



GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY: Row 1: Krysta Tuth, Jennifer Sanders, Morgan Gray, Sara Little, Lisa Navarro, Beth Scheffer, Keri Wilson, Katie Wilson. Row 2: Stacy Brown, Megan Pendley, Stephanie Nicolini, Erin Roth, Jennifer Gonzalez, Natasha Via. Row 3: Maegan Krisko, Stephanie Sperka, Dierdra Diamond, Amanda, Stephanie Badyak, Christina Forrest, Elina Malave. Row 4: Coach Mary Diamond, Amy Fry, Kristan Lucia, Cathy Cannon, Corrin Argenta, April Perrott. Coach Shawn McCarthy. Row 5: Lindsey Mandich, Brynn Pendley, Coach Bryan Angerman, Lisa Zak, Leanne Richmond, Missy Potts



ECYS TENNIS: Row 1: Coach Ferrar Levinson, Nick Corea, Adrian Ramirez, Valante Petsalas, Sam Vasenvaldes, T.J. Stochel, Jeremy McClain, Chris Milcos, Sid Rivera, Mike Igarta, Nester Rivera, Coach Dave Zimmerman. Row 2: Jimmy Metros, Ryan Brown, Josh Larson, Tom Lepp, Philipp Lamlich, T.J. Lux, Joe Moore, Sean McConnell, Kevin Emmet, Jack Dettaven, Jon Garcia



FISMANS Varsity Football: Row 1: Ashley Dobis, Alexia Stath, Christina Navarro, Row 2: Arleen Sattler, Deanna Gookman, Tina Owen, Grace Escamille, Elissa Baez, Row 3: Coach Amy Beckham, Kristle Welsh, Coach Colleen Collins, Elena Bielawski, Coach Lorri Covacu.



JUNE Varsity Volleyball: Row 1: Erin Price, Janell Deem, Alisa Perin, Row 2: Stephanie Valse, Jenny Vukin, Sam Dimoff, Sarah Frink, Natalie Nimon, Row 3: Coach Colleen Collins, Valerie Pratcher, Coach Lorri Covacu, Kris Burke, Coach Amy Beckham.



Varsity Volleyball: Row 1: Coach Lorri Covacu, Sharon Segevich, Coach Colleen Collins, Row 2: Beth Zak, Dede Riddle, Wava Riddle, Angie Harris, Row 3: Nan Malerich, Row 4: Rachel Price, Coach Amy Beckham, Ronda Price.

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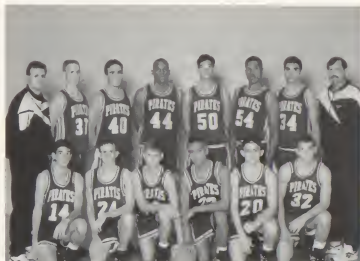
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FRESHMEN BOYS BASKETBALL; Row 1: P.J. Monteleone, Craig Demaree, Jason Carr, Josh Francis, Eddie Roman, Jason Corinano, Row 2: Jason Woolwine, Eric Hubert, Brandon Hoffman, Scott Underwood, Ronald Bolden, Tom Peller, Row 3: Jim Vermillion, Duray Lawrence, Nenad Jovanovic, Danny Spaliaras, Andy Byrom, James Harris, Tyrone Adams



JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL Row 1: Steve Vlahos, Brad Balcerak, Neal Fedak, Cliff Hughes, Justin Gear, David Downs, Row 2: Coach Leo Bonin, Matt Habrych, Jason Miller, William Phillips, John Marelich, Jeff Thames, Stan Glicic, Coach Randy Stelter.



VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL; Row 1: Jason Surdzial, Jason Hac, Row 2: Jovan Blacknell, Eric Culp, Donte Price, Joe Stavizke, Kevin Erny, Cliff Hughes, Steve Vlahos, Ricky Baskin, Row 3: Jim East, Mike Hackett, Will Phillips, Brett Fedak, T.J. Lux, Jammal Davis, Travis Schmidt, Randy Stelter, Leo Bonin, Sherm Izsak



FIFTH GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL Row 1: Lisa Modglin, Erin Price, Kelly Preuss, Pam Niksch, Jamie Modrak. Row 2: Diana Gill, Ieasha Hearne, Amie Frey, Nicole Skura, Jennifer Roames, Lisa Renehan, Coach Bill Simpson.



JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL Row 1: Deanna Goodman, Wava Riddle, Christy Walsh, Jill Matusik, Karl Forester, Sharon Segechiv. Row 2: Jennifer Vukin, Lena Cole, Jessica Vargas, Becki Lambert, Samantha Dimoff, Valerie Pratscher, Coach Mike Reynolds.



VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL Row 1: Deanna Goodman, Carolina Procter, Dawn Fox, Andrea Simpson, Sonya Mitchell. Row 2: Coach Lori Dust, Stephanie Valse, Nakia Clemmons, Ronda Price, Rachel Price, Lori Modglin, Kris Burke, Coach Mike Pritchett.

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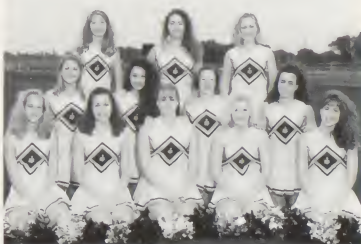
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FLEMING CHEERLEADING: Row 1: Kristina Navarro, Amber Hamilton, Elaine Castro. Row 2: Ashley Dobis, Jessica Reed. Row 3: Nikki Chrisman, Lori Watell, Christin Ciriuncione.



JUNIOR VARSITY CHEERLEADING: Row 1: Gina Fastero, Kim Pero, LaToi Hughes, Katy Shapkaroff. Row 2: Barbara Hoagland, Amy Gutierrez, Amber Braden. Row 3: Christy Oh, Jenny Springman.



VARSITY CHEERLEADING: Row 1: April Pratcher, Rilee Evans, Kristin Lucia, Mandy Olejnik, Samantha Sherwood. Row 2: Bridgette Prashack, Kimberly Anderson, Missy McCory, Angela Kilgore. Row 3: Erica Walla, Aleisha Rodriguez, Megan Wojciechowski.



GYMNASICS: Row 1: Keri Willison, Tina Guzik, Elana Malave, Kelley Jenkins, Alicia DeLeon, Row 2: Lyndi Tegtmann, Kristin Lucia, Amy Sopczak, Alisa Zak, Row 3: Diane Roberts, Bill Roberts



ECYS SWIMMING & DIVING: Row 1 - Ali Santos, Bill Santelik, Adam Rosaves, Eric Randolph, Eric Hanson, Tim Zonka, Row 2: Bryon Angerman, John Rooda, Bob Verbik, Chris Sikich, Richard Brodner, Aaron Malerich, Ryan Brown, Doug Reeves, Ben Jarvis, Sean McCarthy.



JV WRESTLING: Row 1: Jeremiah Rodriguez, Kevin English, Gabriel Skofesi, Bobby Burkus, Sergio Medellin, Doug Summer, Roger Silis, Row 2: Davi Aimone, Jason Rivera, Steve Lopez, Eric Beale, Mike Hunke, Joe Mihl, Randy Collins, Row 3: Coach Mark Rosenbalm, Jacques Harris, Chris Celesti, Mike Pierson, David Evans, Nick Jurich, Coach Chris Rossbach.

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VARSITY WRESTLING: Jennifer Gabriel, Steve Rivera, Jared Tabor, Ted Umphress, Mike Villanueva, Jason Tabor, Nick Marchuk, Jay Lacy, April Pratscher. Row 2: Montel Pace, Bill SummarDan Harvey, Rick Mezo, Jeremy Schwandt, Milan Dezelich Stever Guzman, Kristin Galvan. Row 3: Mark Roebaum, Chris Johnson, Jason Burke, Mike Mikesell, Ryan Francis, Chris Joll.



FRESHMAN BASEBALL: Row 1: Erin Tidis, Edie Romes, Josh Francis, Jordan Pierson, Steve Rivera, Nestor Rivera, Row 2: Coach Pierson, Quenton Allen, Keith Wilson, Sam Berkman, Matt Alin, Mike Curtis, Craig Demaree, Jeff Nelson, Aaron Lorence



JV FOOTBALL: Row 1: Greg Mish, Neil Fedak, Joe Giordeuro, Mike Stath, Justin Gear, Row 2: Coach Biscan, Phil Martin, Mark Bruner, Doug Vartitune, Bobby Martinez, Tim Little, Mark Mazany, Coach Gulik



VARSITY BASEBALL ROW 1: Rob Moore, Sid Rivera, Marino Stath, Joe Barker, Junior Baldazo, Rich Deel, Robert Gutierrez, Matt Brown, Clint Henry, Darren Beck, Row 2: Fenton Macke, Brian Schieffer, Brad Schulte, Ryan Miller, Phil Martin, Brett Fedak, Matt Siecker, Adam Creasbaum, Hank Lech, Dave Kamano, Mike Krutz



FCVS JV GOLF ROW 1: Matt Wans, James Gill, Matt Sparaciano, Denny Frizzell, Jack DeHaven, Mike Anacletio, Max Hutchinson



FCVS VARSITY GOLF ROW 1: Frank McMullin, Sean McConnell, Erin Jostes, Matt Habrych, Jon Rowe, Eric Culp, Max Hutchinson

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◆ "They don't call him Superman for nothing." Garry Conn travels along with his Merrillville Pirates to the I-CADome in Indy.

◆ Waving the purple and white, MHS cheerleaders show the first signs of a semi-state victory.



◆ Joe Foster and Faith Jusko, both '90, share the first dance that followed their coronation at Prom.



Isaac Matthew Rosado

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◆ Carolina Procter, '97, looks behind her before preparing to shoot in the first sectional game. Procter helped to lead the Lady Pirates to a victory in their sectional game against Elkhart.

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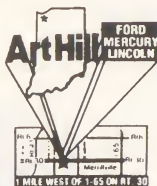


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Student Government would like to extend an open invitation to any member of the MHS student body to come out and experience exactly what Student Government is all about.

◆Joining in on the fun, Michelle King, English teacher, goes along on the trip 50 student government members took down to North Knox for the annual state convention.



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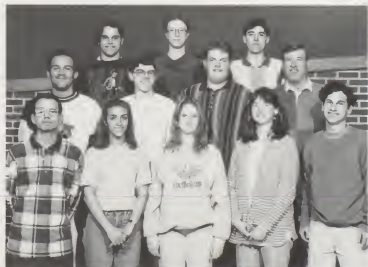
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Good Luck, Julia



Julia Zelondz

We're proud of your
accomplishments.

Love,
Dad and Mom
CARL and PATTY

Congratulations, Thad



Thad Ayce

We're proud of your
accomplishments. Best
wishes for continued

success.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Leeanne

Remember your roots . . .
they will give you
courage to choose your dreams,
wisdom to choose your path,
and wings to fly.

Love,
Mom and Dad



Leeanne Forbes



MIXED CHOIR: ROW 1: John Shelhart, Rebecca Greenberg, Jennifer Shawver, Tonjameka Miller, Nina Zamora, Yashima Mead, Lorie Stock, Kristen Stefankiewicz, Kimberly Clark, Michael Chandler, Angela Guernsey, James Cermak. ROW 2: Andrew Shutt, Marisa Thomas, Elaine Castro, Jennifer Sanders, Diana Dipert, Elisabeth Brown, Amanda Radigan, Angela Melnik, Barbara Freeman, Lisa Carbus, Kathryn Gaines, Jason Blankinship, ROW 3: Brandis Smith, Christen Cirincione, Brittany Shelton, Bryn Alyn Pendley, Teneshia Morris, Holley Welleslat, Tia Kroosvick, Doris Dobrich, Clinique Robinson, Michelle Westerfield, Alicia Shingler, ROW 4: Andrew Byrom, Tom Crane, David Crum, Tobias Meux, Ryan Dykstra, David Janka, Geoffrey Gooch, Christopher Hedigan



MORNING ANNOUNCEMENT READERS: ROW 1: Laurie Maness, Julia Zelondz, ROW 2: Jason Rico, Megan Molony, ROW 3: Mike Mikesell, Kevin Erny

Angie, You're #1, and we're proud of you.



Reach for the Stars

It's not easy to capture lightning in a bottle, but you did it!! Enjoy your thunder Angie!!
 Congratulations to our Valedictorian,
 daughter, sister, and grand-daughter.

Love,
 Papa, Mom, Nick, and Nana

Angie Correa



Bernadette,

Learning is a treasure
 which accompanies its
 owner everywhere.

Love,
 Mom and Dad



Bernadette Vargas

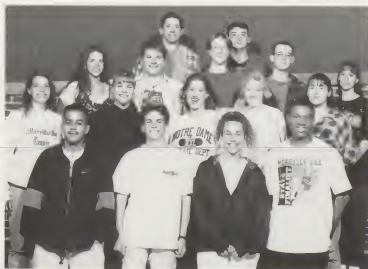
Congratulations, Jason



Jason Chandler

We're proud of your
 accomplishments. Best wishes.

Love,
 Mom and Dad



MPAC: ROW 1: Mike Villanueva, Eric Randolph, Jaime Santerame, Ricky Baskin ROW 2: Pam Ruschak, Kristin Lucia, Kathy Cannata, Mandy Oljenik, Amy Geruska, ROW 3: Leah Frink, Mike Mikesell, Jon Rowe, Rick Brodner, Liz Simunic, ROW 4: Kevin Enry, Kevin Smith NOT PICTURED: Marino Stath, Brian Hogan, Brett Fedak, Rachel Price, Lori Modglin, Missy McCoy, Andrew Delush, Jill Harms, Chris DeMure, Joe Hussey, Matt Habrych, Amy Sapczak, Missy Dobis, Tina Guzik, Eric Foster, Terry Zapinski, Andrea Simpson, Sara Bruner, Megan Pendley, Sean McConnell, TJ Lux, Kristen Sommers, Jason Miller, Tyson Owen, Marianne Maj, Dede Riddle, Nan Malerich



NEWSPAPER: ROW 1: Bernetta Williams, Michelle Parker, Claudia Neri, Julia Zolondz, Mandy Richardson, Lena Gilfillan, ROW 2: Kim Onoff, Erika Yambisak, Jamie McKenney, Laurie Maness, Jean Stanford, Amy Geruska, ROW 3: Eileen Hill, Mark Staniszewski, Judy Jennings, Kelli Moore, Mike Mitrevski, ROW 4: Josh Larson, Pat Farabaugh, TJ Lux, Mike Wisniewski, NOT PICTURED: Kellie Bosenbark, Andy Crane



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NHS SENIORS: ROW 1: Cheryl Gonzalez, Angela Demaree, Megan Wojciechowski, Nancy Packovski, Julia Zolondz, Leeanne Forbes, Jenny Duplaga, Kirstin Olson. ROW 2: Angie Corea, Bridgette Zellers, Jamie Bartochowski, Megan Molony, Liz Simunic, Jenny Spitz, Daniela Damjanoski, Alex Galic. ROW 3: Kristen Sommers, Mandy Olejnik, Lisa Dimitroff, Erin Bachich, Dieder Elzondo, Shan-Hwei Lee, David Greenberg. ROW 4: Jon Rowe, Brian Hogan, Bob Daumer, Rich Brodner, Carlos Frevert, Travis Bainbridge.



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P.N.N.: ROW 1: Kim Clark, Kim Hayes, Judy Adams, Pauly Michael, Candice Parker, ROW 2: Roger Johnson, Brian Snelson, Stephen Salcedo, Margaret French, Julianna Peppas, ROW 3: Jason Blankinship, Kelli Moore, Erin Lain, Geoff Gooch, Terry Emmons, ROW 4: Lauren Fralinger, Steve DeVillez, Josh Gross, Robert Daumer

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QUEST CLUB: ROW 1: Amanda Argue, Nicole Quainter, Erin Crawford, ROW 2: Jerry Kasarda, Kristina Redina, Lindsay Martin

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Quill Scroll

Would like to wish the
Class of 1995

GOOD LUCK

WMHS:

PNN & PIRATE RADIO

Wishing the Class of '95
the best in all their endeavors.

♦Working the camera, Judy
Adams, '95, helps videotape the
press conference held by
Basketball coach, Jim East for
players, TJ Lux and Brett
Feldol, both '95.



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QUIZ BOWL: ROW 1: Jennifer Duplaga, Kirstin Olson, Lisa Dimitroff, Shan-Hwei Lee, ROW 2: David Greenberg, Jason Adler

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FEA would like to congratulate the Class of '95 on their accomplishment, and remind them that high school is only the first of many goals that they can still achieve



FEA OFFICERS

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Kristy Treck,
Nancy Parkovski

Row 2

Christina Gargano,
Mike Mikesell



SHOW CHOIR: ROW 1: Donny Hollandsworth, Lisa Taylor, Beth Jusko, Elisabeth Black, Missy McCoy, Julia Zolondz, Sarah Burt, Lena Gillilan, Barb Hoagland, Lisa Kanouse, Correy McDermott, Eugene Vivo. ROW 2: Jason Dzunda, Jenny Draper, Samantha Sherwood, Michelle Verbik, Leah Frink, Mandy Olejnik, Jill Harms, Katie Pahl, Rachel Price, Ronda Price, Mark Lengyel. ROW 3: Marco Flores, Robert Heath, Larry Murphy, Andy Belush, Geoff Gooch, Kevin Newton, Joe Moore, Britton Hoffman



SPEECH AND DEBATE: ROW 1: Bob Daumer, Megan Moloney, Gina Hampton, Kirstin Olson, Mike Flutka. ROW 2: Scott Mytyk, Jason Reed, Paxton Williams, Jason Blankinship. ROW 3: Mike Mytyk, Josh Gross, Brian Haussmann

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THE MIRROR

So, finally, Issue 17 has come and gone. Wow, what a year. Even though we may have had our differences sometimes, we seemed to come together as a team. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication throughout the year, even when tensions outside as well as inside the class pressured us. Sometimes, it felt like a miracle had happened when we went to press, but it was all worth it to see the laughs and smiles of the student body. We hope all of you have learned about teamwork, about newspapers, about working together and maybe now you have something to take with you. To next year's staff, we wish you all the best of luck. Only you can make the paper work, not the computers, or Mrs. Stanford, or the facts, but you. Work together and make next year one of the best year. And remember, teamwork is the key to success. Thanks again for everyone's effort. We hope this experience will follow you, and good luck in the future.... Mandy: To all of those pressures of deadlines, stressed out press days, and trips to the Herald. I hope you have gained a lot of experience for next year. I (Erika) was extra hard on you for a purpose, you will succeed!!!! Kelli: To my favorite basketball writer and the official communicator to 10th hour. You've saved the day so many times I don't know what I'd do without you. The best of luck next year!! Jamie: A fantastic yearbook Editor and Up-Close Editor (Close-Up) whatever!!!! Everything will be OK monkey boy!! I love you!! Claudia: Hey, why don't you use that rubber cement for pasting!! Judy: Our new page editor, you learned very quickly, good luck next year!! Lena: Our little trip to Indy, all of the Joshes in your life, trips to Burger King, and millions of great talks 2nd hour. Kim: What great ads!! and don't forget those trips never taken to the tanning beds. Mark: to the best business manager ever, Good luck next year. Laurie: Those ad selling trips to Easy Tone, playing monopoly at Mc Donald's and almost winning. Grunge This!!! A'Rhonda: Thank you for always speaking your mind, you brought so much to the paper this year!! Eileen: You still have to do my (Erika) nails, you can have back all of your poor un-printed commentaries- they were all great!! Bernetta: O.K. Mr. Bergeson's class, and all of your great gripes that didn't help in Mr. B's class, Michelle: O.K. all too quiet, except for our little meeting with Dr. Rapacz in M110. Josh: Go watch the weather and be nice to Lena!! Mike: To our favorite illustrator, thanks for saving the day and filling in space last minute!!!! Mike and T.J.: Our abandoned staffers, thank you for putting up with our misunderstandings. Pat: We don't even how to thank you for everything you've done for us. You are greatly appreciated. All of the best of luck at Ball State- you have all the potential to make it big.

And to the entire 94-95 staff: thank you for dealing with our short tempers, hour long lectures, taking all of our frustrations out on you (even if they had nothing to do with the paper). You guys made great punching bags. We will miss all of you dearly.



Good Luck Erika & Julia from the '95 staff

Sincerely,
Erika Yambrisak, Editor
Julia Zolondz, Managing Editor

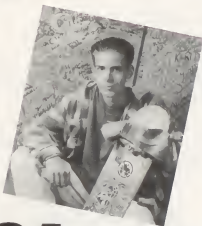


SPELL BOWL: ROW 1: Evelyn Steiner, Kirstin Olson, Jason Adler, ROW 2: Becky Berdine, Shan-Hwei Lee, Nick Gonzalez



STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL: ROW 1: Kari Forster, Daniela Damjanoski, Jennifer Johnson, ROW 2: John Miller, Judy Jennings, Joe Moore

Giolas



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**CLASS
95**



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SUNSHINE SOCIETY: ROW 1: Kristie Gentry, Melissa Lair, Laura Kreft, Anna Herrera, ROW 2: Jamie Childress, Angela Wusik, Kathy Gaines, ROW 3: Lisa VanBerg, Stephanie Cichy, ROW 4: Andrea Rybolt

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Kim, MAY ALL YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE



Kim Fennedy

We're so very proud
of you.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Congratulations, SheRai



SheRai Palmer

We're proud of your
accomplishments.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Congratulations, Tan



Tanjore Turner

We're especially proud of your
excellence. Best wishes
for a fruitful life.
Love,
Mom and Dad



Judy Adams

Judy,
Set your dreams high
and work hard to achieve
your dreams of success in
Broadcast Journalism.
Love always,
Mom and Dad



THESPIANS; ROW 1: Cara Colon, Deanna Tracy, Christina Peterson, ROW 2: Missy Stelter, Deanna Price, Cassie Solomon, Stephanie Hogan, ROW 3: Kevin Newton, Lori Megyesi, Lori Wotell, Patrick Farabaugh



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**There is spirit inside you. Spirit only
you know how to control your full
life, and may it be wonderful.**



Atchafalca LaNepth Pickerson

Dear Roni,
You're unique, just like your name.
You're independent, headstrong, and
may your life be successful.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Grandma and Uncle Ervin

Congratulations, Deidre



Deidre Elizondo

Wishing you happiness
and continued success.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Congratulations, Mijo, Raymond



This is just the beginning, the best
is yet to come. Remember we'll
be here for you always. Follow
your hopes and dreams.

Love,
Mom, Dad and Guys

Raymond Pina



WINTER GUARD: ROW 1: Erica Hall, Jenny Price, Angela Demaree, Nadia Venegas, Lynn Duplaga. ROW 2: Marie Kaminsky, Melissa Stefanski, Jaime Levitt, Christina Peterson, Elisa Bacz. ROW 3: Melissa Glorioso, Judy Jennings, Student Director Jason Jezult, Michelle King.



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In remembrance of
Jasey Randolph
Robert Steiner
Paul Hardison
Michael Niezgoda



*These people have been
in our hearts for so long
we never thought they'd
go. But now they're in a
better place, A place we
hope to go. We'll miss
you all, we love you all
and keep you in our
hearts. We'll think of
you always with every-
thing we do, and aspire to
new heights all because
of you.*

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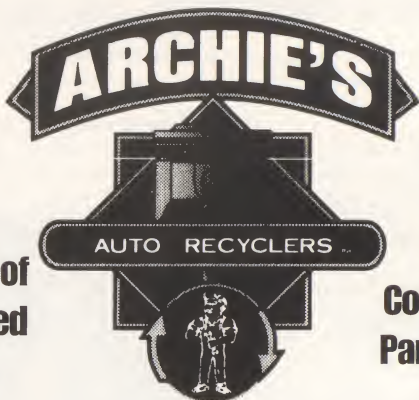
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*The **HERO** class would like to ac-
knowledge and thank all their em-
ployers from the previous year
while also congratulating all who
took part in the proficiency
competition.*



LEFT TO RIGHT: Steve Breedon, Heather Steward,
Vanessa Virgo, & Ian Barnett

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We're proud of you, Patrick



If giving and caring wins success,
there is no doubt your future will
shine, and all who know you will
bask in your success.

Love,
Mom, Dad and Nick

Patrick Farough



Ryan and Kevin



Ryan Parlock

Kevin Enry

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Big Don and Jody

Congratulations, Laurie



Laurie Wojcik

You'll always be
our little girl.

Love,
Mom and Dad



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Congratulations to our Toy:



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with others to climb still.
We only hope we've prepared you well.

- Good Luck - Mom and Dad

LaToya Francis



John,



John Fardolek

"It's not if you
win or lose.
It's how you
play the game."

Love,
Mom, Dad and Lisa



Jay Oliver

God bless you.
We're proud of you.

Love,
Mom and Dad

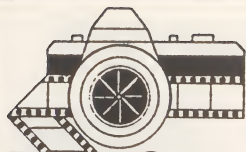
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Dr. Joseph Koscielniak

Lake County Star

Lake Mortgage Company

Danny Lewis

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T.J. Maddox

Mayflower Aero Transit

MBC Office Products

Angie Melnik

Merrillville Barber Shop

Merrillville Beauty College

Pete & Annette Monteleone

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Qwendolyn Perkins

Deanna & Jennifer Price

Bart Pruzin

Qualizza Concrete Construction

Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz

Reeves Flowerama

Remarkable Book Shop

Remax

Leann Richmond

Ronnie B's

St. Elijah Serbian Hall

Bob, Susie, Kim, Jason, & Jamie

Simpson

Angelynn Smith

Brian J. Snelson

Doug, Jean, & Jimmy Stanford

John & Kathy Stavitzke

TNT Marine

Steve Tokavski, Attorney

United Methodist Church

Carol Von Behren

Clubs Not Pictured

SADD

MCATF

FCA

Games

◆ These clubs failed to show up for their scheduled photo.

THE STUDENT

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Chennetta,



Chennetta Elachnell

It's wonderful having a daughter and a sister who has so much going for her. You make everyone so proud with all that you've achieved. It's so easy to admire someone like you, because of all the special things you do . . . because of the special person you are.
Your family

Congratulations, Kelly



Kelly Walters

We're proud of your accomplishments.

*Love,
Mom and Dad*



Jennifer Lynn,

You mean the world to us.
Be happy in life, and remember your special little angel is watching out for you.

*Love,
Mom and Dad*

Jennifer Lynn Fandolph



Congratulations, Erika



Erika Yambritsk

May all of life's deadlines come easier to you than ours this year.

*Good Luck,
MRS. S. and THE MIRROR STAFF*

Dear Missy,



Melissa Steller

Your beliefs create your reality; believe in your dreams.
We are so proud of you!

*Love,
Mom and Dad*

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C O N C L U S I O N

As the months begin to turn into weeks, and weeks to days, the time comes to look back at everything that has been accomplished throughout the year. From the first all sport pep rally to the basketball team making it into the state finals, we begin to really understand that just about...

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

◆ Showing her dedication, Connie Lewis, English teacher and mother, helps to decorate a van for the 4th of July parade. Lewis and her son walked down Broadway and to Hidden Lake as a part of the Parade.



◆ Good old Tommy Leggett stood guard outside of Merrillville High School the week before the state basketball finals.

Seniors Ryan Parlock and Kevin Erny get the balloon in an attempt to help boost student moral and support, while wishing the team good luck!



PIRATES



◆ Besides having to deal with the stress of 1st semester finals, the students had to put up with schedule chaos. Due to a miscalculation, confusion, and just plain kids wanting to get out of class, numerous students had more than one lunch hour.

◆ "I Was?" Rebekah Juste, '97, stands in amazement as Judy Adams, '95 and Basketball Homecoming MC, announces her as the sophomore class princess.

Anything is Possible



Editor's Note **PATRICK FARABAUGH**

Where do I even begin? I guess it all started last year, last quarter, last week of school even. That's when I started thinking of possible themes. After tossing out "The Buc Stops Here," and "Making Magic," I fell into a rut. Not until I started section shuffling did I realize that anything is possible. It hit me. "Anything is Possible." That allows really "anything" to happen. It was perfect! My next major step was creating a logo. Mrs. Stanford, I can't believe what we ended up with. No one is going to listen when we say that the diamond was originally our idea. But hey, at least we'll know! After that, everything just seemed to pull itself together. Jennifer (Bewley), I can't thank you enough. You and Nancy both have redefined what a section editor should be. You're the best, that's all there is to it. Irene, what can I say. It took some convincing to get you on staff, but we couldn't have made it without you. I mean that too. Mandy, I got one thing to say-DOLLAR INN. I think they're now holding messages, at least after my 50th time calling there. But to you to I give thanks. You always have made me laugh, and you're a great friend. Jennifer (Randolph) and Angee, you gotta admit, it has been one heck of a year, but look at what we have to show for it. WOODSTOCK Forever!!! Isn't that how it goes Jen? Thank you for all your dedication and patience. Shannon, next time look behind you before you go trashing the editor. But don't worry, I just laughed it off. Kellie, I don't know what to say, except THANKS...you're the best, sometimes. Sarah, Laurie (Wojtowicz), Deidre, and Tracy. The fabulous four. We did it! What you're reading now, the student body will be reading forever. Matt, I can't tell you how grateful I was when you came on. At least I wasn't the only guy all year. Aarthi, so was this worth giving up ceramics? Kim, I'm glad you decided to stay in for the duration. Thanks! Caryn, I never told you, but I admire you. Everything that you've gone through and still have the patience, and spontaneity to continue, let alone excel. You surprised me at how quickly you picked up PageMaker, now about those cross-country scores... Andy, I feel so bad, at least Mandy was in there with you second semester. P.S. Need a tampon? I know a great place to find some! Laurie (Maness), Susan, and Valerie, although it might not seem like you did that much, the support and helping hand accomplished more than you'll ever know. Amy what can I say, though our differences may have made things just a little bit harder, we still got through. (And look what we have to show for it!) Hey Candice-Say Cheese! Last but not least there are a very few special people that I need to thank. Jamie, you have been the map that has lead me through all this craziness, God bless you and good luck. Also, don't worry, you're going to do even better. John & Jeanette Bir and everyone else over there at Golas. Its become kinda like a second home to me... wonder why? Finally, Mrs. S-Did I make you proud? Look how far I've come. Remember when I couldn't even grasp the concept of a p-i-c-a. I hope this book will be one that you will always remember. Then there are those I couldn't forget like; Melissa Manojlovic, Janet Anderson, Kelli Moore, Kim Coto, Rosellen Kozel, Erika Yambrisak, Valerie Tanke, Judy Vassallo, Debbie Klippel, and I'm sure there is more, but I just can't think right now. Sorry, I do appreciate all the help and please remember that after all we've been through...ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

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◆1995 Merrillvue◆

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VOLUME	7
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SPORT TEAM PHOTOS	Athletic Departme
PRESS RUN	1,10
PRICE	\$22, \$27, \$3

◆Colophon◆

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased by 1.5 million, from 2.5 million in 1980 to 4 million in 1995. The public sector has become a major employer in the UK, and its growth has been a major factor in the overall growth of the economy.

The public sector has also become a major employer of women. In 1980, only 1.5 million women were employed in the public sector, but by 1995, this number had increased to 2.5 million. This increase has been a major factor in the overall increase in the number of women in the workforce.

The public sector has also become a major employer of people with disabilities. In 1980, only 0.5 million people with disabilities were employed in the public sector, but by 1995, this number had increased to 1.5 million. This increase has been a major factor in the overall increase in the number of people with disabilities in the workforce.

The public sector has also become a major employer of people from ethnic minorities. In 1980, only 0.5 million people from ethnic minorities were employed in the public sector, but by 1995, this number had increased to 1.5 million. This increase has been a major factor in the overall increase in the number of people from ethnic minorities in the workforce.

The public sector has also become a major employer of people from the lower social classes. In 1980, only 1.5 million people from the lower social classes were employed in the public sector, but by 1995, this number had increased to 2.5 million. This increase has been a major factor in the overall increase in the number of people from the lower social classes in the workforce.

The public sector has also become a major employer of people from the lower income groups. In 1980, only 1.5 million people from the lower income groups were employed in the public sector, but by 1995, this number had increased to 2.5 million. This increase has been a major factor in the overall increase in the number of people from the lower income groups in the workforce.

The public sector has also become a major employer of people from the lower education levels. In 1980, only 1.5 million people from the lower education levels were employed in the public sector, but by 1995, this number had increased to 2.5 million. This increase has been a major factor in the overall increase in the number of people from the lower education levels in the workforce.

The public sector has also become a major employer of people from the lower health status. In 1980, only 1.5 million people from the lower health status were employed in the public sector, but by 1995, this number had increased to 2.5 million. This increase has been a major factor in the overall increase in the number of people from the lower health status in the workforce.

